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# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: MILNE BAY

STATION: SAMARAI

VOLUME No: 14

ACCESSION No: 496.

1970 - 1971

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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[Volume 14]

CONTROL REPORT OF: SAMIRAT

ACC. NO: 496

VOL, NO: 13 [14]: 1970/71

NUMBERS OF REPORTS: 5

[illegible]



RPH-844-71/2

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

PATROL REPORTS

1970-1971

SAMARI & SUAU

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
<u>SAMARI</u>		
1-70-71	R.NEHMY	Samari Islands Census Division Part only/
2-70-71	A.J.POTTER	Easterh portion of Bwara Bwara Local Government Council Samarai Islands.
<u>SUAU</u>		
1-70-71	R.NEHMY	Part Suau Census Division.
2-70-71	R.C.MUMME	Part Suau Census Division.
3-70-71 (69-70)	R.NEHMY	Suau Census Division.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT



District of Milne Bay Report No. 1-70/71

Patrol Conducted by R. Nehmy A.P.O.

Area Patrolled Samarai Islands Census Division (Part Only)

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans nil

Natives Lao Tau (L.G. Assistant)

Duration—From 2/7/1970 to 16/7/1970 (Broken)

Number of Days Eleven

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services June /1970

Medical Unknown /19

Map Reference Millinch Loani Fournill Samarai

Objects of Patrol To conduct Local Government Council Elections

Director of District Administration,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation .... \$.....  
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund .... \$.....  
Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund ....  
.....  
.....  
.....

GFB:HC

67-4-6

Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, PAPUA

20th October, 1970.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
ALOTAU.

SAMARAI PATROL NO. 1/70-71

Your reference is 67-1-1 of 6th October,  
1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special  
Report by Mr. R. Nehmy, Assistant Patrol Officer,  
of part SAMARAI ISLANDS Census Division.

The lack of interest in the elections is  
surprising. Your comments adequately cover the  
main points arising from this patrol.

Mr. Nehmy's report is a sound submission.

(T.W. ELLIS)  
Departmental Head.



67-4-6. <sup>B</sup>  
7/

67-1-1



Division of District Administration,  
District Headquarters,  
Milne Bay District,  
ALOTAU

6th October, 1970.

Assistant District Commissioner,  
SAMARAI

SAMARAI PATROL REPORT NUMBER 1 OF 1970/71

Thank you for the abovementioned report received on the 15th September, 1970 - 2 months overdue - my previous comments refer.

The lack of interest in local politics is interesting. Dr. Guise repeatedly mentions his electorate's interest in politics both local and national. Please ensure that all officers encourage people to become interested in politics. The people's attention is also to be directed to the Political Education broadcasts that are made by Radio Milne Bay. Should you be unaware of the precise programme times please contact the Manager, Radio Milne Bay.

It is essential that your officers keep close observation on any political activity within the Sub-District and submit reports to you for inclusion in the Monthly Summary. Do you know the cause of the people's apathy towards the Council election - did they really want a multi-racial Council? Are they satisfied with the Capital Works Programme and the benefits received from their tax contribution?

No camping claim was submitted, please forward.

c.c.

Departmental Head,  
KONEDOBU

*F. G. DRIVER*  
F. G. DRIVER  
District Commissioner

Forwarded for your information and comment, please.

*F. G. DRIVER*  
F. G. DRIVER  
District Commissioner



## TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## Telegrams

Telephone

### Our Reference.

If calling ask for

Mr.

67-1-1

Ad/bs

*In Reply*

Please Quote

No.

Department of the Administrator.

Division Of District

### Administration.

Sub-District Office,

Samarai.

11th. September, 1970.

The District Commissioner,  
District Office,  
ALOTAU

SANARAI PATROL REPORT NO 1 of 1970 - 1971

Herewith the above patrol report. My comments are as follows.

It was disturbing to note the lack of interest on the part of Bwana Bwana council's own residents to take part in the elections.

Further information on the hesitancy of Papuans originally from other areas to vote in the Bwana Bwana election was supplied in my S 1 of 8.7.70.

Mr. Nehmy concludes by saying the object of the patrol i.e. the election, was successfully carried out. An alternative line of thought is that the patrol was not a success in as much as only a small proportion of the eligible voters cast their votes.

An election report has already been submitted to the Commissioner for Local Government.

For your information.

(T.A. Steen)

Assistant District Commissioner.

c Mr. N. Mehmy,  
Sub-District Officer,  
Samarai.



(5)

PATROL REPORT.

REPORT NO: 1 - 70/71.  
SUB DISTRICT: SAMARAI.  
DISTRICT: Milne Bay.  
COUNCIL AREA: BwanaBwana.  
PATROL CONDUCTED BY: R. Nehmy.  
DESIGNATION: Assistant Patrol Officer.  
AREA PATROLLED: Part Samarai Islands Census Division.  
PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING: Lao Tau (Local Govt. Assistant.)  
Arthur Prout. (Interpreter.)  
DURATION OF PATROL: 2/7/70 to 16/7/70. (Broken)  
NO. OF DAYS: Eleven.  
AREA LAST PATROLLED: June '70.  
MAP REFERENCE: Millinch LOANI Fourmill Samarai  
OBJECT OF PATROL: To conduct Local Government Council Elections.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL DIARY.

Thursday July 2nd '70.  
0800 to Loani - election for councillor held.  
1430 returned to Samarai.

Friday July 3rd '70.  
0800 to Matadona - polling conducted.  
1430 returned to Samarai.

Saturday and Sunday observed at Samarai.

Monday July 6th '70.  
0800 to Belesana - polling conducted.  
1000 returned to Samarai.

Tuesday July 7th '70.  
0800 to Leilei - polling conducted.  
1100 returned to Samarai.

Wednesday July 8th '70.  
0800 to Mananeuna - polling conducted.  
1130 returned to Samarai.

Thursday July 9th '70.  
0800 to Simagahi - waited 3 hours for people.  
1300 polling held.  
1500 returned to Samarai.

Friday July 10th '70.  
0800 to Sariha Slipway - warned people of p.m. election.  
0830 to Sausauaga - waited until 1200.  
1330 polling completed - to Sariha Slipway.  
1545 polling completed - returned to Samarai.

Saturday July 11th '70.  
0800 to Loani - polling conducted.  
1500 returned to Samarai.

Sunday observed at Samarai.

Monday 13th July '70.  
0800 to Logeia. - waited 'till 1130 - polling commenced.  
1300 polling completed - to Kwato.  
1545 - polling completed - to Samarai.

Tuesday 14th July '70.  
0800 to Bideia. - polling conducted.  
1615 returned to Samarai.

Wednesday 15th July '70.  
At Samarai compiling electoral report.

Thursday 16th July '70.  
0800 to Sidudu - waited until 1145, polling conducted,  
1230 returned to Samarai via Pearl Island.

Patrol Stood Down.



MILNE BAY DISTRICT  
Samarai Sub-District  
SAMARAI ISLANDS DIVISION  
Scale, 4 miles: 1 inch.

Not shown: Dawson I  
Nuskata I

*M. L. Mackellar*  
M.L. Mackellar  
ADC Samarai.

ENGINEER GROUP

Tubetube Kwaraiwa Sandi I  
Skeleton I

Tewatewa

Anagusa

Kitai

Hamama

BASILAKI  
ISLAND

Habanr

Tegerauna

Dulana

Sekuku

SIDEIA  
ISLAND

Sidea  
Mission

Cotai

Buiari

MILNE  
BAY

Simagani

PAPUAN  
MAINLAND

Maranau

Sidudu

Lokei

Belesang

SARIBA I

Sauasauaga

Leani

SAMARAI

Kwato

Mataua

Rogea

Deni

CORAL SEA

Wari Island

Direction of Travel



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

SAMARAI PATROL No. 1 70/71

SITUATION REPORT:

INTRODUCTION:

The patrol was mounted in order to conduct an election for local government councillors for the BwanaBwana Council. The patrol visited the western half of the Samarai Islands Census Division, thus enabling the writer to visit the area not covered in his initial patrol of this census division (Report 3-69/70). The eastern half was patrolled by A.J. Potter A.P.O. (2-70/71). A complete election report has been forwarded under separate cover. The election report contains all data pertinent to the elections themselves.

POLITICAL:

A nomination patrol had patrolled the area a month previously, and by special permission nominations had closed 2 weeks before the elections. Thus the people had considerable time to consider the merits of the respective candidates.

In the elections conducted by this patrol all results were decided on the primary count, and all decisions were clear cut. Thus it appears that one candidate had been selected to receive most of the votes with the other candidates as nominal candidates only. Informal voting was low, with one exception. At Kwato there were 22 informal votes (of 73). At Kwato a large proportion of the voters were students of the various schools there, who had had no previous contact with electoral procedures. The explanation of voting procedures was similar to that given elsewhere, but at Kwato it must have been inadequate.

A disturbing feature was the unwillingness of people from outside the council area (i.e. plantation labourers, slipway employees) to vote. Almost all stated that they wished to keep their ties with their home council and pay their tax there, and not to the Bwana Bwana council. As the BwanaBwana tax is the highest in the district, these people have good reason to pay a lesser tax to their home council. These people were told that if they voted at the Bwana Bwana elections, they had become part of the BwanaBwana council and must therefore pay their tax to BwanaBwana. They were also advised to send their tax to their home council and obtain a receipt before the BwanaBwana tax patrol arrived there.

The people are quite at home with electoral procedures, but preferential voting was not often used.

The number of voters appearing at each polling place was extremely disappointing. One councillor who had renominated for election warned his people that the patrol was arriving next day, and then went back to his isolated bush home. One village with over 350 voters present in the area produced only 30 people to actually vote. In all villages visited a 3 to 4 hour wait was required, and even then the turnout was disappointing. All emphatically



stated that everybody knew of the patrols arrival. It therefore appears that the people simply did not wish to vote.

ECONOMIC:

Pearl Island, a European cultured pearl venture, was visited during the course of the patrol. The owner, Mr. C. Denis George, has just received a Development bank loan to assist him in his project. The Sideia sawmill appears to be operating to full capacity; the logs are supplied by adjacent villages on Sideia Island.

SOCIAL:

A new school is being built at Sausauage by the villagers there to replace the small mission school there. A large block of land has been cleared and the frames of three classrooms have been erected. Two teachers houses are also planned in the near future, as well as further classrooms.

The Sidudu wharf is almost complete, but the cement shortage on Samarai has forced a cessation of work. The Logeia wharf is in a similar situation.

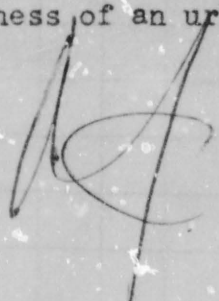
MISCELLANEOUS:

All of the places visited are within close proximity of Samarai. They were: 2 mission stations (European run), 2 boat slipways (European run) 4 plantations (2 European owned) and 5 villages. It appears that in the villages close to Samarai the old cliché "familiarity breeds contempt" applies. The closer the village, the higher the apathy towards the elections., and to the Administration in general. As there is much intercourse between the proximate villages and Samarai contact at village level is slowly becoming nonexistent. Perhaps a patrol going to these villages and spending a few days just sitting and talking with the villagers may do some good, but this may be impracticable, due to the closeness of the villages: the population is continually going around to the other close villages, and to Samarai. With Samarai only 20 minutes or so away, the village level contact is hard to maintain.

CONCLUSION:

The object of the patrol, i.e. the conducting of Local Government Council Elections, was Successful, although the small number of people attending and casting votes was very disappointing.

The ~~MILITARY~~ patrol also enabled the writer to see the area of this census division which he had not previously seen; and to observe for the first time the effect of the nearness of an urban area to villages.



Richard Nehmy.  
Assistant Patrol Officer.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT

Report Number..... 2 - 1970/71

Subdistrict..... Samarai

District..... Milne Bay

Type of Patrol..... Local Government Election

Patrol Conducted by..... Andrew J. Potter

Area Patrolled..... Eastern portion of

(Council and/or..... Bwana Bwana Local Government Council

Census Division/s.)..... Samarai Islands

Personnel Accompanying Patrol.....

Kule Rawell L.S.O.

Rakutani Mickey Council Clerk

Duration of Patrol—from..... 6/7/70 to..... 18/2/70

No. of Days..... 12

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area:..... June 1970

Date..... 2/6/70 Duration..... 9 Days

Objects of Patrol (Briefly)..... Nomination and pre-election

Total Population of Area Patrolled.....

Director of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner.



BN:CG

67-4-20

Division of District Administration,

KOROR. Papua.

14th January, 1971.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
ALOTAU.

SAMARAI PATROL NO. 2 - 70/71

Your reference is 67-1-1 of 7th December, 1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Report by Mr. A.J. Potter of Eastern Portion of Samarai Islands Census Division.

Had Mr. Potter been preparing an area study, the A.D.C.'s explanation as to why this patrol report was not submitted to you until some two and a half months after the completion of the patrol, would have been justified. As it stands I fail to see why a report so short took so long, notwithstanding the separate election report.

I trust that Mr. Potter has been instructed to do very much better in the future.

(T.W. ELLIS)  
Departmental Head.

c.c. Mr. A.J. Potter,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

BR:CG

67-4-20

Division of District Administration,

KONEDOBU, Papua.

13th January, 1971.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
ALOTAU.

SAMARAI PATROL NO. 2 - 70/71

Your reference is 67-1-1 of 7th December, 1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation  
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Had Mr. Potter been preparing an area study  
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the separate election report.

I trust that Mr. Potter has been instructed  
to do very much better in the future.

(T.W. ELLIS)  
Departmental Head.

c.c. Mr. A.J. Potter,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.





67-4-20

(10)

6741-1

Division of District Administration,

District Headquarters,  
Milne Bay District,  
KORORUA

7th December, 1970

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Sub-District Office,  
KORORUA

SANITARY PATROL REPORT NO. 2 of 1970/71

Thank you for the above mentioned report.

At this late stage no comment is necessary.

*F.G. DRIVER*

F. G. DRIVER  
District Commissioner

c.c. The Departmental Head,  
Department of the Administrator,  
KORORUA

For your information please.

*F.G. DRIVER*

F. G. DRIVER  
District Commissioner

DISTROFF  
Samarai 52  
67-1-1/67-1-2  
TAS/tv

Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District  
Administration,  
Sub-District Office,  
SAMARAI M.B.D.  
29th September, 1970

District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
ALOTAU

SAMARAI PATROL REPORT NO. 2. of 1970

Please find herewith the above report submitted by Mr. Potter.

The late submission is regretted, but Mr. Potter has been pre-occupied by office and town duties.

The ruling as to taking time off from other duties as outlined in your 67-1-1 of 18/9/70 is noted, and Mr. Potter was allowed time off from the office to go to his house to complete the report.

However, Mr. Potter is extremely versatile, and he was called on to do a variety of tasks concerned with the day-to-day running of a town. It is interesting to note that those tasks were mainly agency ones, and mainly of the type that previously the Civic (or Civil) Services Section (or Division) of the Treasury carried out.

A local expatriate community of the size that it is in Samarai is difficult to ignore, especially when they call at any hour of the day or night at one's private residence - and especially when you may be the only D.D.A. Officer on Samarai at that particular time.

However, I will ensure that this will not be repeated, even if it means that I insist Mr. Potter "hides out" on one of the neighbouring islands until he has finished his report, for which period his civic spiritedness will have to remain dormant.

Action has long since been taken on all the matters raised.

Further, as stated by Mr. Potter a complete election report has been submitted containing full details of the actual election, and may duplicate this patrol report as the patrol was mainly for the purpose of conducting the general elections for the recently reconstituted Bwana Bwana L.G. Council.

However, Mr. Potter took the opportunity to make native contact in other fields, and was available for discussions and for receiving complaints and enquiries from the Bwana Bwana people.

The uneasiness mentioned as to the redistribution of wards is noted. Whereas before each village had a councillor, now a councillor can represent several villages within a single ward.

In my memo S.L. of 8/7/70 (in an unclassified section) I reported as following:

At the village level there may be some disappointment expressed when the final results of the current election is known, and the village representation will be seemingly cut.



The writer expressed this fear before but was informed the former council itself, (then composed exclusively of councillors from village wards) chose the distribution and boundaries of wards which were finally adopted.

It is unfortunate that the previous basis of one councillor for each "barrack" could not have been continued, but it is unlikely that villages of 55 persons (22 voters) could continue to have this representation if the council is to progress in this day and age.

Attempts will be made to explain that the statutory limit of emoluments to councillors in relation to, the council's revenue cannot be exceeded.

At the same time it is hoped that the incoming council will continue to consider the setting up of officially recognised ward committees and pass the rule the previous council had drawn up. It is expected that persons who may have been elected councillors under the former constitution will be elected as ward committee men/women and would be able to attend council meetings as observers. This attempt to have further contact at the grass roots level will of course be supplemented by the annual taxpayers meetings in each area that provide a further forum of opinion on local government affairs.

It is hoped that the incoming council will be able to spend more of its finances on public works such as village aid posts, and wells and give a better return for the taxes paid by its constituents. This will also need to be explained.

In conclusion it should also be stated that despite there not being one councillor for each village, despite its size in all wards, (there are still some single village wards however), the representation of village people is still far greater per capita than the urban people enjoy.

It would make the establishment of ward committees far more practical if the method of election of ward committee members did not have to be as complicated and time-consuming as the elections for the council as a whole, and the House of Assembly.

It is felt that my remarks made in the Area Study I compiled for the Louisiade Archipelago Area would apply to the Bwana Bwana group of islands also. These remarks are attached to this memo as per Appendix 1.

Where Mr. Potter writes of hearing disputes he is fully aware that he does not have court powers, but has merely arbitrated in a dispute to bring both parties together to reach a mutual agreement of these parties, or to investigate the facts as they appear for subsequent police or court action.

(T.A. Steen)

Assistant District Commissioner.

c. Mr. A.J. Potter.  
Assistant Patrol Officer.  
SAMARAI



No formal system of ward committees set up by council rule or under Division 4 of the Local Government Ordinance at present exists in this area.

Men (and possibly some women) who were previously village (pre-local government) councillors under the old Papuan system of village constables and village councillors prior to the formation of the Lousiade Local Government Council (and others who probably would have been the old style village councillors if that system was still operative) appear to regard themselves as, and be recognised by villagers as "committee". These men assist the duly elected present day councillors in their wards sometimes stand in as councillors as spokesmen when the regular councillors may be absent, attend council meetings which for local government purposes can probably be regarded virtually as de facto ward committee members.

This system of "quasi ward committees" obviously could be formalised in the Council's area by passing of an appropriate rule by the Council and if the subsequent rule is not disallowed by the Commissioner for Local Government. But to set up a formal system of ward committees under the present elections arrangements for ward committees as laid down by sections 39c (1), 39(3) and 39D of the Local Government Ordinance would mean the Council making council elections complicated, expensive and time consuming affairs. In addition to the regular two yearly council elections if the suggested figure of 112 ward committee members (and this figure would seem to be in proportion as there are 24 councillors and reasonable if calculated on a population basis that still only gives the smaller villages not hamlets one representative ward committee member each) then by-elections are going to be a regular occurrence.

Local Government elections usually have a tight enough schedule as it is (especially in this area where the one Administration vessel is already fully committed) with the conducting of elections for councillors alone, without contemplating the similar secret and preferential elections of ward committee members also involving prior calling of nominations, preparations of ballot papers, counting by preferential voting system and final preparation of returns with relevant voting statistics, etc. As the Lousiade Local Government Council area is the same as the Misima Sub-District this means the entire sub-district must be covered in the statutory election period of 21 working days.

Prior to local government in the Territory it appears that most elections of village councillors was by an open show of hands. Even if the secret ballot and use of ballot papers was to be maintained the extension of the preferential counting of votes rather than the "first past the post" system to be ward committee level would seem cumbersome. Lest this remark seem contemptuous of due democratic processes it should be pointed out that the House of Assembly had discussed whether preferential voting is practical for even elections to the House and it seems that a commission or committee of enquiry may be set up with this as one of its term of reference.

As background the relevant sections of the Local Government Ordinance 1963 and as amended to date appears to be:

S.39c(1) Subject to this Ordinance and to the provisions of any rule made by a Council, the associate members of a Ward Committee shall be elected by secret ballot.

S.39c(3) The council shall, by rule, determine the manner and procedure of elections for Ward Committees which shall be the same, as nearly as may be, as the manner and procedure of elections for councillors

S.39d The tenure of office of associate members of a Ward Committee shall be concurrent with the tenure of office of of the councillor for that ward under Section 25 of this Ordinance.

S.39f Where a casual vacancy in the membership of a Ward Committee occurs, whether by reason of death or otherwise.....



(6)

PATROL REPORT

Report Number	2 - 1970/71
Sub-District	Samarai
District	Milne Bay
Council Area	Bwana Bwana
Patrol Conducted by	Andrew J. Potter
Designation	Assistant Patrol Officer
Area Patrolled	Eastern portion of the Samarai Islands Census Division.
Personnel Accompanying	Dale Rawali I.G.O. Rahatani Mickey Council Clerk
Duration of patrol	12 Days
Area last patrolled	June 1970
Map Reference	Journal Loani Malinch Samarai
Object of patrol	To conduct the Bwana Bwana Local Government Council elections.

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(5)

PATROL DIARY

Monday 6-7-70 0330: Depart Samarai aboard N.V. Managuna.  
1045: Arrive Kwaraiwa, delayed due to bad weather. Talked with the village people and inspected the wharf and Aid Post whilst awaiting arrival of the population.  
1415: Commence elections.  
1600: Complete elections. Compiling figures.  
Overnight at Kwaraiwa.

Tuesday 7-7-70 0745: Depart Kwaraiwa.  
0830: Arrive Skelton.  
0900: Commence elections.  
1000: Completed elections.  
1045: Depart Skelton for Tabetube.  
1100: Arrive Tabetube. Await arrival of population.  
1300: Commence elections.  
1600: Complete elections. Votes counted. Return to Kwaraiwa. Heard one complaint about a stabbing incident.  
Overnight at Kwaraiwa.

Wednesday 8-7-70 0700: Depart Kwaraiwa. 1000: Arrive Kitai.  
1100: Commenced elections.  
1230: Completed elections. 1330: Depart Kitai.  
1400: Arrive Katokatue. Talked with the councillor and villagers. Heard one marital complaint.  
Working aboard Managuna.  
Overnight at Katokatue.

Thursday 9-7-70 Held Bedauna elections at Katokatue. Depart Katokatue for an interview. To basilaki for another interview. Return to Katokatue. Working aboard Managuna.  
Overnight at Katokatue.

Friday 10-7-70 0630: Departed Katokatue for Habani. Await arrival of villagers. Held Habani elections. Counted votes. To Sekuku. Checking figures, compiling report and letter writing.  
Overnight at Sekuku.

Saturday 11-7-70 To Gisia for Co-ops, thence to Gotsai. Nobody present at Gotsai. Advised that we would return on Monday afternoon.  
Return to Sekuku. Overnight at Sekuku.



4

Sunday 12-7-70 Observed at Sekuku.

Monday 13-7-70 Held Sekuku elections.  
1230: Depart Sekuku for Gotal. Held Gotal elections.  
Depart Gotal and return to Sekuku. Paperwork  
aboard Mataguna.  
Overnight at Sekuku.

Tuesday 14-7-70 To Dulara and await arrival of population.  
1230: Commence elections. Very poor attendance  
due mainly to poor weather. Complete elections  
and depart for Tegerauna. Unable to anchor.  
To Sideia for the night.

Wednesday 15-7-70 Travel to Tegerauna and await arrival of voters.  
1130: Commence elections.  
Complete elections and depart for Samarai.  
Discussions with A.D.C.

Thursday 16-7-70 0330: Depart for Ware Island.  
0930: Arrive Ware Island. Held talks with the  
people. Inspected the wharf and Aid Post.  
1300: Commence elections.  
Overnight at Ware.

Friday 17-7-70 0800: Resume Ware elections. Virtually 100%  
of voters voted. Awaiting completion of Co-ops  
inspection.  
Overnight at Ware.

Saturday 18-7-70 0600: Depart Ware for Anagusa and Kwaraiwa.  
Leave Co-ops office at Anagusa and travel to  
Tewatewa to serve summons. Heard one pig  
complaint. Depart Tewatewa for Kwaraiwa to  
further investigate the stabbing incident.  
Return to Anagusa and await completion of Co-ops  
inspection.  
1800: Depart Anagusa for Samarai  
2300: Arrive Samarai.  
PATROL STOOD DOWN

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Territory of Papua & New Guinea.

Samarai Patrol No.2 - 70/71

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this patrol was solely to conduct the Bwana Bwana Local Government Council Elections, in conjunction with a second patrol, conducted by Mr. Nehmy A.P.O. ( see report No. 1-1970/71 )

A complete election report has been submitted, containing full details of the actual elections.

POLITICAL

During the previous month a patrol had covered the area collecting nominations, which closed two weeks prior to the commencement of elections.

This idea, for which special permission was obtained, proved to be highly successful, eliminating a lot of 'on the spot' work to prepare the ballot papers, and also enabling all papers to be checked prior to arrival in the villages, thus eliminating the possible error of incorrect ballot papers.

Only one incident resulted from the early closing of nominations; this from one current councillor who failed to understand that nominations could not be accepted after the date ordered.

In general the people of the eastern portion of the census division are more interested, if not more politically aware than their western counterparts.

Although attendance at all but one polling centre was poor, and accordingly only a small percentage of the possible votes were cast, the people present showed a fair degree of interest in the proceedings.

Only in one ward was a second count necessary to determine the successful candidate, indicating a fair degree of pre-selection, or an incomplete understanding of the preferential voting system.

Many people were concerned at the changes in ward structure in this section of the Council area, and in many cases I feel quite justifiably; it is only a shame that these people failed to voice their views prior to the acceptance of the new constitution, when they were given the opportunity to do so.

The main uneasiness is centred around Tegerauna, Duiana, Sekuku and Gotai, all of which under the old constitution had their own Councillor.

Tegerauna and Duiana have always been very closely linked together, and they have suddenly become divorced; the Tegerauna



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people in a ward of their own, and the Duiana people associated with Sekuku and Gotal with whom they have previously had very little connection.

#### ECONOMIC

The principal form of economy in the eastern portion of the area is still the production of copra at village level, there being only one recognised plantation, Panamailoa, owned by Mr. G. Miller of Samarai.

Beche-de-Mer and trochus shell are collected on a small scale and sold at Samarai, but at the time of writing no figures are available to give any further indications.

Co-Operatives have a firm hold, with four stores in the area, all of which are trading at a creditable profit.

#### SOCIAL

At present the council has a number of new works in progress, all of which are on a self-help basis, financed by the council. These include Aid Posts at Ware and Kwaraiwa and a wharf at Kwaraiwa. It is unfortunate that the completion of these works is long overdue, mainly due to the complete lack of cement in Samarai, although the Kwaraiwa wharf has made no progress since December last year.

The majority of villages now have permanent water wells which have been installed by the council, but the siting of these is often difficult due to the widely spread hamlets which comprise each village.

There are two villages which have formed Womens clubs, both of which appear to be well supported. Many of the villages have formed sports teams and arrange inter-village competitions among themselves.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

During the patrol a few minor disputes were heard, all of which were resolved satisfactorily. The majority being pig ownership or marital problems.

One incident of stabbing was reported by the Councillor at Kwaraiwa, but unfortunately the accused was not present, and so could not be interviewed. On return to investigate the matter, the story had completely changed. The councillor was no longer present, and without his assistance the woman refused to implicate her husband for fear of retribution. The man had apparently stabbed his wife once, and his small daughter twice, these wounds having been examined and treated by the writer in the first instance, when the stabbing was reported - but when questioned the second time, all the wounds were ingeniously explained away as accidents!



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CONCLUSION

The object of the patrol was successfully achieved in that we now have the required number of Councillors for the Bwana Bwana Council, although in many respects it was rather disappointing, especially in the attendance at the majority of villages.

For a statistical report on the elections please see the election report submitted under separate cover.

Perhaps it should be noted here that this patrol was conducted concurrently with the Co-ops annual audit and inspection patrol, and on the whole the combined effort was most successful, especially in that the working time of the trawler was cut by almost three weeks, an approximate saving of £1700-00.

Maybe this system could be implemented with other departments, which would amount to a considerable annual saving.



Andrew Potter  
Assistant Patrol Officer