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PATROL REPORTS

District : Western
Station : Rouku
Volume : 6
ISBN NO : 9980-910-89-5
Accession NO : 496
Period : 1958-1959

Filed by/for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea
Port Moresby 1995

Sole Custodian: National Archives of Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: ROUKU WESTERN ACC. No: 496.

Volume No: 6 1958/59 Number of Reports: 3

REPORT No:	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED	MAPS/PTS	PERIOD OF PATROL	FIC No:
[1] 10/1958/59	1-32	COOKE, G.F.	P.O. TRANS RLY CENSUS DIVISION	MAP	24.10.58 - 19.11.58	
[2] 20/1958/59	1-70	COOKE, G.F.	P.O. BENSBACH CENSUS DIVISION	MAP	18.1.59 - 2.2.59	
[3] 30/1958/59	1-15	HUMPHREYS, K.W.C.	P.O. BENSBACH CENSUS DIVISION	MAP	11.4.59 - 22.4.59	
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Rouku No. 1 (Annual)

1958/59

Nos. 1, 2, 3.

WESTERN DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1958-59

ROUKU

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
<u>ROUKU</u>		
1 - 58/59	COOKE, G.F.	Trans Fly Census Division
2 - 58/59	COOKE, G.F.	Bensbach Census Division
3 - 58/59	HUMPHREYS, K.W.C.	Bensbach Census Division

30-4-50

1st December, 1958.

The District Officer,
Western District,
BARU.

Special Report No. 1, 1958/59 - ROIKU.

Receipt of the above-mentioned Report
is acknowledged with thanks.

We cannot expect too much from these
people when they are so seldom contacted. The
installation of two aid-posts might assist.

Is the native pastor Wando ever
visited by the London Missionary Society personnel?

Perhaps it will be possible to pin-
point the reason for de-population after a more
thorough investigation has been made.

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

42/4(3) ✓ 36/4/50 ✓
TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

30-1-6

District Office,
Western District,
DARU.

28th October, 1958



The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Special Report - ROUKI No. 1 of 58/59

The attached report refers :

The depopulation of this area has been going on for many years and I am at a loss to provide a reason why the actual birth rate should be so low. The area abounds in game and their staple diet is either yams or sago depending on the season.

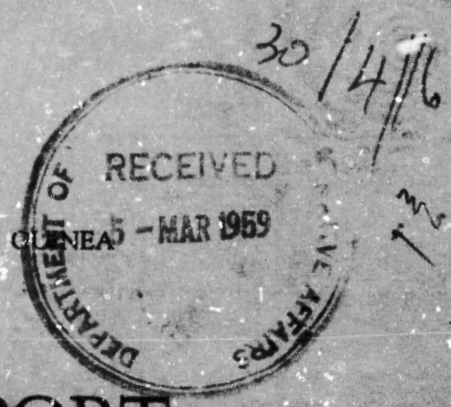
Now we have some bicycles in the area, patrols should be able to get out more regularly and assess the position.

Early in November I will be sending a trawler to the area to make some Astro fixes of the border and will send down a load of seed coconuts and rice seed to the two agricultural assistants who live in that area.

(D.R. MARSH.)
Acting District Commissioner,
Western District, DARU

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DNA



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA - MAR 1959

~~C.M.~~

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. ROUKU - 1 of 1958/59

Patrol Conducted by G.F. Cooke - Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled TRANS FLY CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans It. G.D.W. Irvine P.I.R. till 8/11/58
4 members R.P. & N.G.C.
Natives 1 N.M.O.

Duration—From 24 / 10 / 19 58 to 19 / 11 / 19 58
Number of Days 27

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services - / 10 / 19 57
Medical - / - / 19 54

Map Reference Trans Fly - 4 miles to 1 inch.

Objects of Patrol Compilation of Tax/Census Sheets
Collection Head Tax
Routine Administration.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

24 2/19 59

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 £.....
.....
.....

30-1-2

District Office,
DARU,
WESTERN DISTRICT.

8th August, 1959.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - MOREHEAD AREA.

Reference is made to your memo 30-4-51 of the 23/4/59 and Morehead memo 30/1-74 of the 17/7/59 (enclosed).

Forwarded herewith is the reply by the Officer-in-Charge, Morehead, to your above-numbered memorandum.

It is quite apparent, due to the unceasing efforts of Mr. Cooke and his staff, that things are beginning to move in this area. Many more seed rats are required in the area.

The Trac Grip is at Daru, awaiting transport to Morehead and the Ferguson has not yet arrived at Daru. As much road-making equipment has been supplied as the limited District funds will allow, however this is pitifully inadequate as at the present time. The additional food being produced for sale to the station will save on transport and will bring cash into the area, cash for which the people are hungry. Transport remains a problem here, as it does for every area in this district. The DC3 strip at Garaita, when completed, will do much to solve the supply problem and, to this end, the main effort should be directed towards its completion.

A Native Agricultural Assistant is now at Morehead and his efforts should prove invaluable - the services of a second man are required however, as at the moment, none are available. Personally, I do not favour any great emphasis upon the growing of rice, due to the small population concerned, the prevalence of birds, insect and animal pests, and the need for continuous supervision. The District Agricultural Officer is due to depart for Morehead tomorrow on a patrol of the area and his report should prove of interest.

I asked the Education Department if they had a canoplier for issue to the U.F.M. Mission at Suki but none was available. Perhaps you could set machinery in motion in order to procure a canoplier?


(F.P.V. Robb)
a/District Officer,
WESTERN DISTRICT.

*Quest with
on Super file
150 13/19*

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File:- 30/1-74

Patrol Post,
Western District,
MOREHEAD.

17th. July, 1959.

District Officer,
Western District,
D. R. U.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - MOREHEAD.

The Director of Native Affairs memorandum 30-4-51 of the 23rd. July 1959, refers.

The delay in replying to this memorandum is regretted, but the writer departed on a six week patrol early in May, and when paid an official visit to Daru, and has only just returned.

The remarks the writer will make apply for the whole of the Morehead area.

The position has become brighter since the first patrol. The Agricultural department in Daru has supplied many seed coconuts ex Saibara and approximately 3000 nuts have been planted out or are in nurseries. The ground was marked properly by some of the staff personnel before the coconuts were planted. Coconuts have been planted in thirteen villages and others are at present clearing areas preparatory to planting. A patrol is at present in the Suki Census Division marking out coconut plantations. It is hoped to have each man plant at least fifty coconuts over a period of years.

A Trak Grip and a Ferguson Tractor are on the way to the station and they will greatly help in this work.

A vehicular road system is currently under construction and despite the small population, exceptionally good work has been done on the road between GARETTA and ARUFE. The Patrol in the SUKI area will survey a road from MATA to the SUKI Lagoon. In the next week intensive work will commence on a road from ROUKU to WEAM in the Bensbach Census Division.

A lot of money has been spent in the last few months in the form of contract payments and payments to carriers. With this money a MOREHEAD BUYERS SOCIETY has been started. So far 550 shares at 5/- have been sold. Before this the people could not obtain any trade items at all, except from patrols. Now large quantities of goods such as soap, tobacco, matches, hooks, fishlines, calico, shirts, shorts, batteries etc are being sold.

The result of the store is that the people are more willing to work. They have planted bigger gardens, are bringing in more food for sale. They sell fish, eggs and a few European type vegetables to the station.

Native crocodile shooting looks like becoming a big thing in the area. They did not shoot before, as they could not get rid of the skins.

Large copal gum deposits are known to be in the Suki area. This can be exploited when the road is through and transport is available.

Rice was planted in the Bensbach but was not very successful, except at WANDO. This village, with proper supervision, could probably produce large quantities of rice. No doubt some of the other villages in this area could be equally successful with supervision.

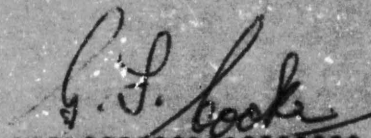
The District Agricultural Officer has promised the writer a full time Agricultural assistant and he will be of great assistance.

The District Agricultural Officer is shortly to pay a visit to the station and it is hoped that he will be able to advise if any other cash crops, such as peanuts and coffee, can be grown successfully.

The U.F.M. missionary at GIGWA has done a course in cane work and has promised to teach the girls and boys wicker work if a cane splicer can be obtained. One has been requested from the Education Department. One of the storekeepers in DARA has promised to take any handicraft work. So a market is assured. This could provide good money for those who can produce chairs, tables, sewing baskets etc.

Amongst the locals the slow change from apathy to energy has been noticed.

For your information and forwarding, please.


.....
(G. F. Cooke, O. I. C.
Morehead)

TGA.ATL.

30-4-5L

CONFIDENTIAL

23rd April, 1959.

The District Commissioner,
Western District,
DARU.

PATROL No. 1 - 1958/59 - ROUNU.

Receipt of the abovementioned Patrol Report
is acknowledged with thanks.

I agree in the comments contained in paragraph
2 of the Assistant District Officer's memorandum to you.

In so far as tax is concerned the position
can be remedied by giving liberal exemptions to villages
as such.

I am gratified to note the progress at Garaita.
Has Mr. Cook any firm proposal to put up to assist these
people in their economic development.

A. A. Roberts
(A. A. Roberts),
DIRECTOR.



30-4-16

District Office,
DARU,
WESTERN DISTRICT.

25th February, 1959.

Officer in Charge,
ROUKU.

ROUKU PATROL REPORT 1 of 1958/59.

The above Patrol Report has been read with interest.

The Trans-Fly has been poorly off for some years in common with other sections in this District. However, steady progress has been made elsewhere and your section is now receiving attention with the introduction of the regular fortnightly air service to your area, construction of the airfield at the new Post site, and a road programme which I have already indicated to you.

On the 8th March Cadet Humphreys will go to you for a term and I think will be of good assistance to you.

The original plan will stand, that is development of these roadways to link with waterways for an outlet of produce. Sometime in March I hope to land your new Trak-Grip there.

Crocodile Skins. The Western Trading Co. now being established in Daru will purchase crocodile skins from the native shooters.

Copra. Two trainees from your area have already gone to the Copra Marketing Board for training purposes. A further consignment of seed nuts from Baibaira are now available in Daru and can be requisitioned for the nursery you have already established.

Medical. I have now funds to dismantle and re-erect the hospital we purchased from A.P.C. and today you will have received from me a signal in regard to its siting.

Education. On the approved objectives for the Western District, initial development in the Educational field is set down for Rouku for 59/60 and 60/61. The native labour quarters and other buildings at Rouku were purchased with the intention of re-erecting as classrooms and dormitories.

Airstrips. A Hagen saw has been borrowed from the Bazu Mission and has been despatched to the area. The magneto trouble experienced was the subject of discussion between the mechanic and the operator at the Wasikusa a few days ago. I understand that several models of this type were assembled with the cooling fan back to front. Would you get Frank Griffin to have a look at this and test to see if this is so. This would be the cause of overheating which I am informed is the case. The plant operator for the grader has already been despatched to you and parts received from Moresby have already been forwarded with the grader. A set of hoses for the hydraulic system has been requisitioned for together with tools and other parts requested.

Officer in Charge, Rouku.

- 2 -

25th February, 1959.

Missions. The L.M.S. missionary in charge of the district is in England and will not return until next August. During the last year or two he has not been in good health. In the meantime you should keep the closest contact with the area, a procedure that will be facilitated when you receive your vehicle.

(John J. Murphy)
District Commissioner,
WESTERN DISTRICT.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30 - 1 - 2.

District Office,
Western District,
D. A. R. U.

19th. December, 1958.

Memorandum to,

The District Commissioner,
Western District,
D. A. R. U.


Subject: ROUKU Patrol Report No. 1 of 1958-59.

1. Herewith for your information and on-forwarding please find the above-mentioned patrol report. This report does not make particularly bright reading, the area in question having advanced little. Because of Mr. Cooke's service the report is presented in the old form. The three main requirements in the Rouku area are economic, educational and health advancement. It has been stated that some few years ago a large number of the younger people from the area crossed and settled over the Dutch border and that this has had a marked effect upon population growth - even if this is exaggeration the fact that these people lead a nomadic type of life, with change of domicile in the wet and dry season and with the gardening and hunting areas comparatively widely spaced, has not ~~not~~ allowed of a settled and congregated type of life, necessary in order to foster population increase and to allow of economic development. Much of the land is, agriculturally speaking, worthless and subject to inundation, the gardening area comprising small strips of scrubland, flourishing in between large areas of lateritic soil.
2. I consider that these peoples must first have instilled in them the will to help themselves to advance, economically and socially and that this can best be done by giving them a marketable crop, that is copra, together with the means of processing and marketing it. At least three Native Agricultural Assistants would be required to supervise village by village planting and free seed nuts would be required. Navigable rivers of the area would permit of comparatively easy collection of the produce, with the trak-grip allotted to Rouku able to collect produce from the inland villages. The Garaita airstrip, when finished, would provide a further outlet.
3. Educational facilities are required in the Rouku area, especially so as the mission efforts in the area are practically negligible. An European teacher could well be posted to Garaita when accommodation becomes available or, at least, a good native teacher. Such a school would need to be a boarding school as the population is so scattered.
4. Health facilities are poor and an E.M.A. staffed hospital is badly needed. A study of the reasons for the population stagnation would well fall within the scope of the E.M.A.'s duties.
5. Some decision as regards the scope of medical, agricultural and educational work in this area should be arrived at now, particularly in view of the fact that the new station site is now being built at Garaita and provision can and should be made as regards the needs of the various departments. To date it would

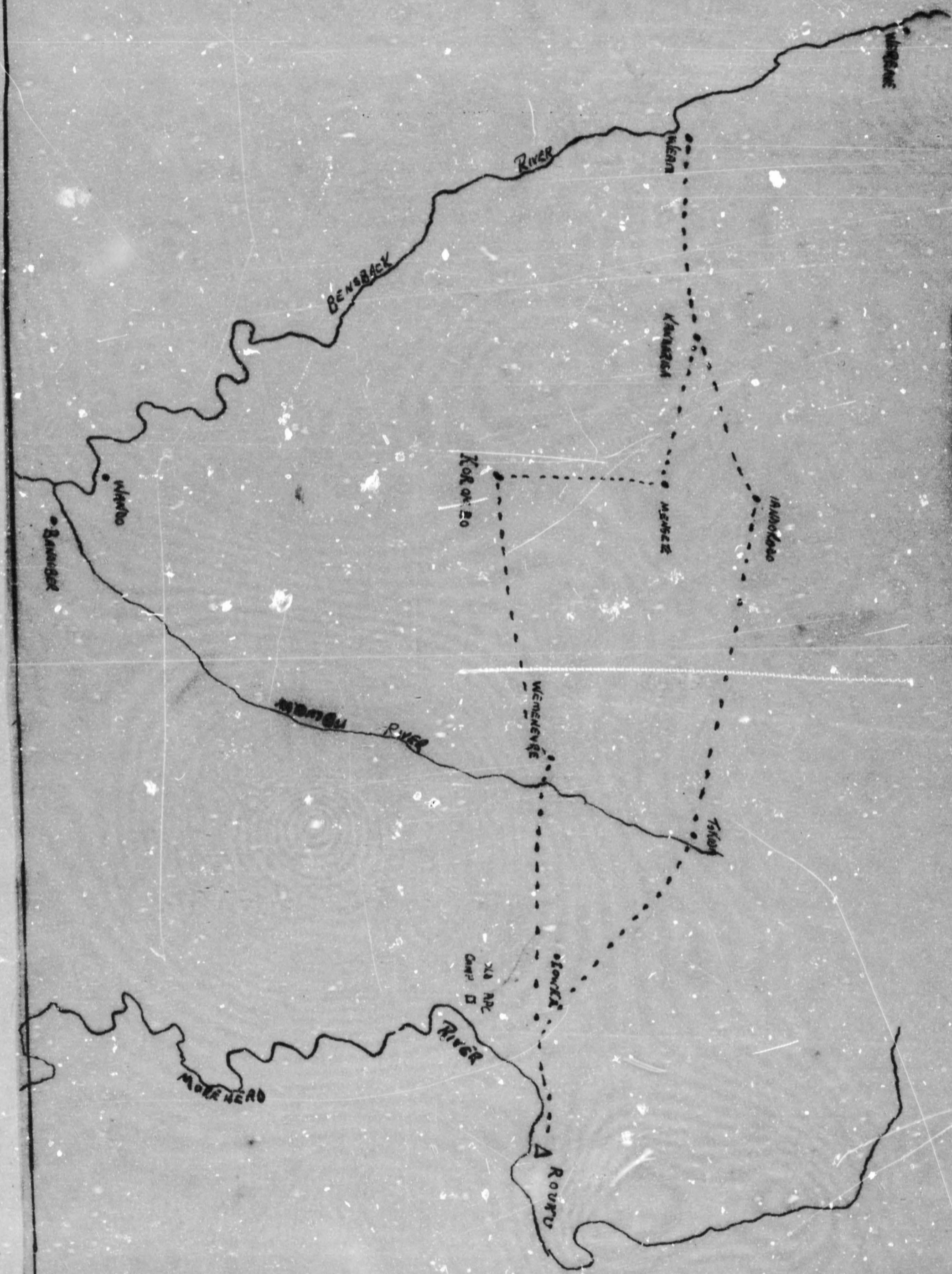
seem that this area has been neglected because of its sparse population however the writer is of the opinion that the extent of the area should be a dominating factor, together of course with its strategic importance.

6. The TransFly census division is the only one taxed in the Rouku area. Although it was recommended to the Assistant Administrator that the same amount, that is Ten Shillings, of taxation be retained for the coming year this was done before the present patrol revealed the true position - that is that the tax cannot be supported and that this position will pertain until such time as these people attain to a definite income. It will therefore be necessary to, at least partially, exempt the area from taxation in 1959.

7. This patrol was carried out by Mr. Cooke in a competent manner.


(F.P.V. Robb, S.D.O. for
District Officer.)

DUTCH - NEW GUINEA BORDER



Special Report - Routes No. 1 & 100 - 59
Scale 1:100,000

DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM OF PATROL

ROUKU No. 1/58-59
Patrol No. 1/58-59 Sub-District part District Western

Officer Conducting Patrol Patrol Officer G.F. Cooke

Census Division Patrolled Transfly

Objects of Patrol (1) compilation of tax/census sheets. (2) Collection of Tax. (3) Routine Administration.

Date Patrol Commenced 24/10/58 Date Completed 19/11/58

Duration—days 27

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE ARISING FROM PATROL

This Report has been read
by a/DMO
DEO
a/DAO
a/DO

Patrolling Officer's Signature.

I certify that all necessary local administrative action has been or is being taken on matters arising out of this patrol and that the correspondence above indicated by a "tick" has been forwarded to the Headquarters, Department of Native Affairs, Port Moresby.

[Handwritten Signature]
A.D.O. for District Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Patrol Report - ROUKU No.1 of 1958/59.

Patrol Conducted by: G.F.Cooke Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled : Trans Fly Census Division.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans: Lt.G.D.W.Irvine P.I.R till 8/11/59

" " " Natives: 4 members of the R.P.& N.G.C.
1 N.M.O.

Duration of Patrol: 24.10.58 to 19.11.58

Number of Days: 27

Medical Assistant Accompany: No.

Last Patrol to the Area. D.N.A.: October 1957.

" " " " P.H.D.: 1954

Map Reference: Trans Fly 4 miles to 1 inch.

Objects of Patrol: Compilation of Tax/Census Sheets
Collection of Tax.
Routine Administration.

Friday
24th. October M.V. Elavala" departed Rouku for Daru at 0850
Lt. Irvine and self departed on patrol at 0855.
Tax/Census of Mata. Lt. Irvine self on bicycles

Saturday
25th. October Departed MATA at 0745 hrs. and carriers arrive
DERIDERI at 1040 hrs. Tax/Census conducted.

Sunday
26th. October Departed DERIDERI at 0715 hrs and carriers
arrived at 1030 hrs. Aid Post here. Tax/Census

Monday
27th. October Departed ARUFE at 0710 hrs. and carriers arr-
ived GUBAM at 1045 hrs. Tax/Census.

Tuesday
28th. October Departed GUBAM at 0715 hrs. and carriers
arrived BIMADEBUM at 1055 hrs. Tax/Census.

Wednesday
29th. October Departed BIMADEBUM at 0710 hrs. and carriers
arrived DIMISISI at 1110 hrs. Water poor, food
in good supply. Tax/Census.

Thursday
30th. October Departed DIMISISI at 0700 hrs and carriers
arrived BUK at 1330 hrs. Lt. Irvine and self
arrived at 1000 hrs. Country undulating, gettin
out of the perfectly flat country now. Tax/
Census.

Friday
31st. October Departed BUK at 0650 hrs. and arrived KONDOBA
at 0915 hrs. Water poor as usual. Tax/Census

Saturday
1st. November Departed KONDOBA at 0700 hrs and arrived
KINKIN at 0920 hrs. U.F.M. Mission has a small
church here. Seldon visited by mission staff.
The U.F.M. Mission is at MADERI. Tax/Census.

Sunday
2nd. November Departed KINKIN at 0745 hrs and arrived LIMIL
at 1115 hrs. Rain in early morning. LIMIL has
been shifted from the old site and a new
village and gardens have been built on the
road to MALAM. Tax/ census.

Monday
3rd. November Departed LIMIL at 0655 hrs. and arrived MALAM
at 0905 hrs. Road good. Tax/Census .

Tuesday
4th. November Departed MALAM at 0710 hrs. and arrived
BUBIJI at 1200 hrs. This is another new villag
The old village name was KWIWANG. The new road
has been cut through dense bush. Housing poor.
Food plentiful. Tax/Census.

Wednesday
5th. November Departed BUBIJI at 0715 hrs. and arrived
DIMIRI at 1245 hrs. This is also a new village
There has been a split in the village and some
of the people have gone to a village in the
OROMO Census Division. The new DIMIRI is an
hour past the old place and on the IARA KUSSA
River. Water good and plentiful. Tax/Census.

Thursday
6th. November Departed DIMIRI at 0705 hrs. and arrived at
SIBIDIRI at 1145hrs. This village is on the
WASSI KUSSA River. MV "URANGAH" arrived ex-
DARU at 1300 hrs enroute to ARUFE. Tax/Census.

Friday
7th. November To GIJA for Tax/Census. This village is nearly
an hour in a sailing canoe, above SIBIDIRI.
MV "URANGAH" arrived at 1220 hrs. and patrol to
BUJI arriving at landing point at 1520 hrs.
20 minute walk to village.

Saturday
8th. November Rose at 0430 hrs. but did not eventually depart BUJI till 0800. Arrived MABADUAN per MV "URANGAH" at 1530 hrs. Lt. G. D. W. Irvine to Daru per the MV "URANGAH".

Sunday
9th. November. Departed MABADUAN per two sailing canoes and arrived SIGABADARU at 1210 hrs. Village very dirty.

Monday
10th. November Tax/Census. Departed SIGABADARU per two sailing canoes at 1300 hrs and arrived TABATATA at 1530 then half an hour's walk to village.

Tuesday
11th. November Tax/Census. Excellent Rest House. Departed per two sailing canoes at 1400 hrs. and arrived BER at 1545 hrs.

Wednesday
12th. November Tax/Census. Twins seen here. Departed BER by two sailing canoes and arrived after only a twenty minute run to BUJI.

Thursday
13th. November Tax/Census. Spent six hours in discussions with the people. Even one of the women addressed the assembly. Two villages have combined here and are called BUJI. Unable to leave today as winds too strong. Wild duck in abundance.

Friday
14th. November Departed BUJI at 0805 hrs. per two sailing canoes and arrived IAUGA at 0940 hrs. Tax/Census. Did not remain here as water has to be carried for some distance. Departed IAUGA at 1140 hrs. and arrived TAIS landing at 1420 hrs. An hour's walk to the village.

Saturday
15th. November Tax/Census. Set of twins seen. Departed TAIS at 1105 hrs and arrived MARE at 1725 hrs. Most of the walk through bush, however for about an hour it was very dense.

Sunday
16th. November Tax/Census. Departed MARE and walked for 2½ hours to JARAI.

Monday
17th. November Departed JARAI after Tax/Census and walked back along beach. Thousands of coconuts near Jarai. Have not been cared for and are growing wild.

Tuesday
18th. November Rose at 0245 hrs. and departed MARE at 0330 hrs. and arrived TONDA at 1325 hrs. This is the horrible stretch referred to so often. However on this occasion the early start coupled with an overcast sky made the trip bearable. Note from Mr. Robb, A. D. O. saying he had arrived at ROUKU.

Wednesday
19th. November Tax/Census of TONDA. Departed TONDA at 0840 and arrived MIBINI at 0920. Tax/Census. Departed MIBINI at 1200 hrs. Arrived GAREITA at 1420 hrs. Tax/Census and arrived ROUKU at 1715 hrs.

END OF DIARY.

INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL.

This Patrol Report is prepared in accordance with Circular Instruction No. 267 of the 24th. March 1958.

From the 24th. October till the 8th. November the patrol was accompanied by Lt. G. D. W. Irvine of the Pacific Islands Regiment. Lt. Irvine had also accompanied an earlier patrol to the Benschach Census Division to carry out a reconnaissance of the area. The Army has some intention of establishing a post in the area and Lt. Irvine was to report on the most suitable spot.

The main objects of this patrol was the compilation of the new Tax/Census sheets and the collection of the 10/- head tax. This is the only taxable Census Division in the area.

should Routine Administration patrols in an area such as this/give way to specialist patrols. The people in this area have been under Government influence for forty years and longer, and they are well aware of the Administrations intentions and laws. What is needed is a stepping up of Medical and Agricultural patrols.

No outstanding incidents were met with on this patrol.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The native situation remains quiet. The people on the whole are apathetic and colourless. Daily life is tackled with grim determination mainly because the type of country they are living in permits of little else.

Previous officers have fostered an interest in the manufacture of sailing canoes. Three canoes have been recently constructed and five more are in the course of construction. The main difficulty is the supply of canvas for sails. A.P.C. was a source of supply for old canvas but now they have gone. The off-shore islands trade canvas and rope etc., for the garden produce of the coast. However as was mentioned in an earlier report most of the canvas is old and worn. It is understood that the coastal villages of SIGABADARU, BER, TABATATA and BUJI are shortly to be incorporated into the Local Government Council. With the benefits derived from having a Council the financial problems should shortly be overcome, and they will be able to purchase new sails etc. The people of LABADUAN will build and outfit it with rigging and sails for prices ranging from £10 to £50.

Along the coast trading with the off-shore islands goes on, with the off-shore islands getting the better of the deals. However it does provide the coastals with some ready cash. Crocodile shooting is also very popular and brings in a large amount of money. Only two coastal villages produce any copra. Near JARAI there are perhaps between 1500 to 2500 coconuts palms along the beach, no attempt has been made to care for these palms. Instructions were given re same. IAUGA produces a little copra and they have easy access to the MAI KUSSA River and so it would not be difficult to collect any copra they produce and send to Daru per any Government vessel going to ARUFE.

The inland people are a different proposition. There are very few people living great distances from each other. The total area of the ROKU area is approximately 8,000 sq. miles, and the TRANS FLY Census Division would be just over half of that. The total population in this area is just over 1600. Very little has been done for these people in the way of education and medical services. Granted the population is very small indeed, but the area is of strategic importance and the people are unable to do anything for themselves. There is no European enterprise now that A.P.C. have gone and there are no missions in the area. Copra appears to be the only money making industry open to these people, and even that will be difficult to market because of the distances involved. No one village can afford a copra drier and even if it was feasible for two or three or more villages to combine their income would still prevent the outlay for a drier. They find it very difficult to get enough money for a shotgun.

NATIVE AFFAIRS cont'd.

With no European enterprise the natives are left without any means of gaining income. Some of the local villages sell fresh foods to the Station but that only helps a few. Advice by an expert in the field of Agriculture is needed. This area is unique in its problems. The people want to help themselves but have not got the opportunities to do. The main argument against any heavy expenditure is the lack of population, and up until the last few months the Administration has spent very little on the area; however we have undertaken to look after these people and something has to be done and that soon. Another more forceful argument is that this is perhaps the most strategically important area in the Territory.

No matters were dealt with in the Court for Native Matters on this patrol.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK.

Food was plentiful with only the village of BUJI complaining of any lack of surplus. The gardens at TAIS, MARE and JARAI were very large and well cared for. In the whole area food production seems to be up on previous years. Taro is the staple diet, while yams and some sweet potatoes are grown. Pineapples were found in most villages and were large and full of flavour. The only European type vegetable seen on patrol was pumpkin.

Coconuts were found in all villages but no new ones had been planted. Though the palms looked healthy it is not certain if they are suitable for copra. Recently a shipment of 1000 coconuts arrived ex BAIBARA and a nursery has been made at CREITA. It is intended to plant these coconuts in the villages between GAREITA and APUFE. Two men from the Benschback who spent six months at the School at Samarai are supervising the planting in the villages. Though the planting of new coconuts was urged on the patrol it is considered more beneficial if the coconuts are good seed type and the planting is done properly. It is hoped to be able to send some more men from this area to the school and so be able to help the copra production. The people know very little about copra as they were labourers on rubber plantations before.

153 pigs were seen on this patrol and they were all in small pens. Very few fowls were seen. Wallaby, cassowary and even deer were seen in large numbers. The people in this area have plenty of meat to supplement their diet. On the coast fishing is another protein gathering activity.

FORESTRY.

Most of the area is mainly open ti-tree scrub. However in one or two places, especially between TAIS and MARE there is a large forest where some large trees suitable for canoe building are found.

VILLAGES.

Practically all the villages in the area patrolled had a temporary look about them. Though the houses in most villages were in good repair, there was no order about the construction and no order within the village. KWIWANG village had been abandoned and a new village called BUBLI had been built. LIMIL had been moved to a better site and was near a small stream. DIMERI had split into two villages one section moving into the ORIOMO Census Division and the other moving an hour south of the old village and building on the banks of the IARA KUSSA River. These three villages are all on good sites appear to be on better walking tracks and the water is fairly good. In most of the villages water is a great problem and all the water seen had a great deal of matter suspended in it.

All the villages with the exception of SIGABARU were clean and neat. Rubbish in most places was fairly well disposed of, but instructions were given for the better disposal of same.

VILLAGES Contd.

The villages of GIJA and SIBIDIRI wish to combine. They are separated by only an hour's run in a sailing canoe, they are all related. The water and food at SIBIDIRI are poor and so too is the site. GIJA has better water, better site and bigger gardens and ample space for expansion. The population of SIBIDIRI is only 22 and the population of GIJA is 46. The combining of these two villages, if they carry out their plan to do so, will be of great benefit to them and will mean great food and copra production.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH.

N.M.O. KANAE of the Rouku Hospital accompanied the patrol and carried out his duties in a capable manner. A list of treatments given are found in Appendix 'D'.

There are Aid Posts at ARUFE, BUJI and MARE. The MARE Orderly was absent in Daru at the time of the patrol. The A.P.O. at BUJI seems to be doing a good job and visits the nearby villages regularly. A new Aid Post has been built at BUJI and is in good condition. The Aid Post at ARUFE is in reasonable condition but medical supplies are short despite requests for same.

The area is in need of more Aid Posts, possibly at MALAM and DLMSISI. Two natives from BUJI were anxious to train at Daru as Aid Post Orderlies and with permission from the District Medical Officer they have been sent to Daru for training.

The main need for the whole of the Rouku area is the establishment of a hospital in charge of a Medical Assistant, Accommodation can be provided.

The population is not increasing and visits from child Welfare Nurses if at all possible, would be of immense value to the people. This should not be too difficult to arrange when the airstrip at Gareita is finished and when motor transport is available.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Most of the area can be reached by some form of motor transport during the 'dry' season. Very little work would be required on the roads to make them trafficable, and only a few bridges would be required. Motor transport in this area would be of great benefit in the administration of the area. It seems strange that in one of the few places in the Territory where road building is particularly easy that there is no transport. A track-grip has been on order for this station for some years. A sum of £200 has been allocated to this station for Road building. Shortly a road will be opened between GAREITA and ARUFE to enable the transportation of supplies from the new station to the WASSI KUSSA River where boats from Daru can visit regularly.

All the tracks had been cleaned and were in good order except for the road between MIBINI and GAREITA. Instructions have been issued to maintain this stretch of road in good order.

EDUCATION.

Till recently there was a Mission school at ARUFE but that has since closed down. One or two native mission teachers are running classes in some villages, but there are practically no text books or exercise books or writing materials. At SIGABADARU when the school was visited a number of multiplication tables put on the board by the teacher were incorrect.

This is another field which has been neglected in this area. If at all possible a boarding school should be established as soon as possible at GAREITA. Even though the Administration has been here for many years the people are far behind many others in the Territory. To stop them from getting further behind a school is of major importance. It is not fair to deprive the children

EDUCATION Cont'd.

OF THIS AREA of the chance of education. This subject was broached on patrol by a number of villagers and they were told that their requests would be brought to notice. It is earnestly requested that urgent consideration be given to establishing a school here in the very near future.

MISSIONS.

As mentioned under Education some native mission teachers are still running schools and church services. Apparently no European missionary has visited them for some time and so the mistakes which are being taught in the educational field and in the field of dogma are going uncorrected. The natives want the missions, and in most villages some form of service was conducted, usually by one of the villagers without any knowledge of what he is supposed to be preaching about. If this state of affairs is allowed to go on unchecked it could prove very dangerous. It only requires some ambitious person to spread some form of 'cargo cult' teaching and it would spread like wild fire. This applies to any form of unsavoury teachings or ideas. Once again the lack of population would not attract missions to the area. The main mission influence belongs to the London Missionary Society. However the people are anxious for any mission of any denomination, especially a European.

However the missions should be made to visit their outstations regularly and not allow the present situation to arise again, or to continue.

AIRSTRIPS.

No airfields exist at present in the area, however a D.C.3 airstrip is at present under construction at GAREITA. The local population have been working hard on the strip with heartening results. The small population makes progress relatively slow and arduous, and here mechanical aids such as a chain saw would be of great benefit and would save time and allow the small labour force to concentrate on other work. There are hundreds of yards of timber to be cut and this will take a very long time under the present system. A Galion Grader is on the strip at present and it is believed an operator is on his way here. The strip is flat and there are no rock formations. The ground is above flood level and the drainage is good. The coming 'wet' season will probably interfere with the work.

TAXATION AND CENSUS.

The new Tax/census sheets were compiled on this patrol. The capitation tax of 10/- was the amount laid down for this Division. Except for the coastals the inland people had difficulty in finding the money. A number liable for tax had been indentured labourers but in most cases had returned from work many years ago. There is no way they can obtain money. The other Census Divisions are not liable for tax, but they have had the same opportunities for getting money as these people. People from all over the Rouku area have been at work, it is not just the Trans Fly villagers. Taxation has some advantages, the main one being that the people will now have to find some ways of getting the money. They will have to make bigger gardens, trade produce with other villages out of the area and produce copra, get crocodile skins etc. However all this is dependent on the Government providing a market and being able to transport the goods to the airstrip or to the Wassi Kussa.

The people were all willing to pay their tax. The coastal people with the money were not so keen, but the inland people in some cases wanted to give more than the 10/- required. Most of the people did not have the money.

TAXATION AND CENSUS cont'd.

The following receipts were issued:-

TAX RECEIPTS (Full)	34
TAX RECEIPTS (Partial)	102
TAX EXEMPTIONS (Full)	318

As can be seen this means that there are a total of 454 people in the Census Division liable for taxes.

A total amount of £44.1.0 was collected and has been dealt with as required by Circular Instruction No. TC 1 - 1957/58.

The last census patrol to this area was in April 1957 the population was then 1561, in November 1958 the population was 1585: an increase of 24 in 19 months. This is not very heartening.

Two sets of twins were seen on the patrol and assistance will be requested under separate memorandum in accordance with P.H.D. Circular No.362 of the 23rd. October, 1958. At the present time there are only 19 woman pregnant, in this area.

A big number of old men and woman were seen (comparatively speaking) on patrol and the next census should show a decrease in the population, if the migrations 'in' don't exceed the deaths and migration 'out'. This census the migrations 'out' exceeded the migration 'in' by 3. Of the 19 births expected possibly two or three of those will die within a year.

One very noticeable point is the fact that there are only 7 men at work outside the district and three at work inside the district. Last Census there were 84 employed outside the district and 12 inside. As can be seen from figures the labour force in the area is not very great and mechanical aids are essential.

Another bar to increase of population is the custom of young girls being married to old men and old widows etc., being married to young men. This all occurs through the practice of sister exchange.

CONCLUSION.

The area is peaceful by but the desire for goods and services and knowledge is evident everywhere. The small labour force available should be helped by mechanical aids, but the small population should not preclude them from expenditure needed to assist them. Health, educational and agricultural services are of the utmost importance and are required now. Transport is also of great importance to the expansion and economic development of the area.

The boat position has improved greatly and enables stores and supplies to arrive at regular intervals. The new houses should be erected at GAREITA within the next few months. The land for the station will be purchased shortly. An increase in the police strength will be requested under separate cover.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G.F. Cooke, Patrol Officer)

Patrol Report - Rouku No.1 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'A'.

Report on Members of the Royal Papuan and New Guinea Constabulary.

Reg.No.9786	Const.BETATA.	The senior Constable on the patrol. Was trying but needs more experience and needs to use his initiative.
Reg.No.9976	Const.ATTA.	The best of the police on this patrol. Did not shirk any responsibility. A good worker and cheerful.
Reg.No.9994	Const.WAY.	A show-off.Lazy and irresponsible a first but improved.
Reg.No.10162	Const/Bugler SAKEI.	Young,but didd all that was required of him.

The police on this patrol were all comparatively new to the Force. Through lack of experience they found it difficult at first but had greatly improved by the end of the patrol. Full uniform was worn at the lowering of the flag and the locals were impressed by this and the bugle.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G.F.Cooke, Patrol Officer)

Report - ROUKU No.1 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'B'.

Report on Alienated Land.

N I L.

Recently 4.92 acres have been set aside for Administration Purposes by the Land Board between ARUFE and the WASSI KUSSA River.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G. F. Cooke, P. O.)

Former Papuan Reserve Mission Lease
J. J. W.

Patrol Report - ROUKU No.1 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'C'

Waste and Vacant Land.

N I L.

All the land is owned by groups or individuals. If unsuitable for agriculture the hunting rights exist.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G.F. Cooke, P.O.)

Patrol Report - ROUKU No.1 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'D'

Treatments Given by N.M.O. KANAE-TURA on Patrol.

TREATMENTS ON PATROL:	43
INJECTIONS ON PATROL:	58
NUMBER SENT TO HOSPITAL:	25
YAWS:	4
CUTS AND SORES:	17
TROPICAL ULCERS:	7
SCABIES:	8
NUMBER OF BABIES TREATED:	18
NUMBER OF CHILDREN TREATED:	21

G.F. Cooke
.....
(G.F. Cooke, P.O.)

Patrol Report - ROUKU No.1 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'E'.

Inland Waterways.

Rouku Patrol Report No.1 of 1955/56 refers.

This gives a full coverage of information required. No additional information was gleaned on this patrol.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G.F. Cooke, P.O.)

PATROL No. ROUKU 1 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'F'.

Patrol Officer's Stream Report.

This has not been submitted. NA. 24-1-7 of the 13th. September, 1957 refers.

All the rivers which are small enough to bridge can be done locally. But the big ones, e.g., MAI KUSSA, WASSI KUSSA, IARA KUSSA and the MOREHEAD would be a major undertaking. There is no development in the foreseeable future which would warrant the enormous expenditure which it would require.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G. F. Cooke, P.O.)

VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

Year 1958

Govt. Print.—4331/10.52.

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS										MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES			TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL						
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth		In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child-bearing age	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M					F	M	F
		10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	Females		Males		Child		Adults																											
GAREITA	19.11.58	2	.											1	3	.	.									1	12	1	10	7	1.5	5	7	11	10	33			
NATA	24.10.58	0	3											1	3	6	4	2								6	24	5	19	3	18	2	9	16	21	24	22	85	
PONGAKI	25.10.58	2	.											1	3											3	5	1	6	6	4	7	5	7	9	28			
DERIDERI	25.10.58	1	1												1	1										3	7	6	12	7	4	0	7	15	7	14	43		
ARUFE	26.10.58	2	1										1										2			1	22	5	14	2	12	2	11	11	25	20	69		
GUBAM	27.10.58	2	.										2				2						4			4	18	9	13	2	12	2	12	18	19	18	71		
BIMADEBUM	28.10.58	4	3											1	1											8	11	6	17	16	3	18	16	17	24	75			
DIMISISI	29.10.58	4	.										1	1		2	3									5	22	9	27	1	22	1	7	20	20	27	33	100	
BUK	30.10.58	3	5										1	8	12	5	2									7	22	9	22	1	18	2	8	25	26	29	33	105	
KONDOBA	31.10.58	2	1										1	7	5	7	8									8	20	8	12	1	11	2	2	15	18	20	14	67	
KINKIN	1.11.58	.	3										1	.	1	1	1									3	17	3	17	14	2	2	10	16	19	19	64		
LIMIL	2.11.58	1	.											3	2	.	.									5	15	4	12	11	8	10	7	15	14	46			
MALAM	3.11.58	1	2										1	2	2	3	2									3	23	7	24	2	22	1	2	17	12	30	26	85	
BUEIJI	4.11.58	1	3										2	2	1	3	4									1	15	2	10	1	9	1	8	13	11	19	13	56	
DIMIRI	5.11.58	.	1																							3	8	2	7	5	1	4	7	8	10	8	33		
SIBIDRI	6.11.58	1	.										1			1										5	7	0	6	4	7	7	1	8	6	22			
GIJA	7.11.58	2	1										1			1	1									3	11	3	12	10	1	7	11	12	16	46			
SIGABADARU	10.11.58	6	2										1	1	1	2										4	31	8	28	2	25	2	2	29	21	35	34	121	

STORES TAKEN ON PATROL

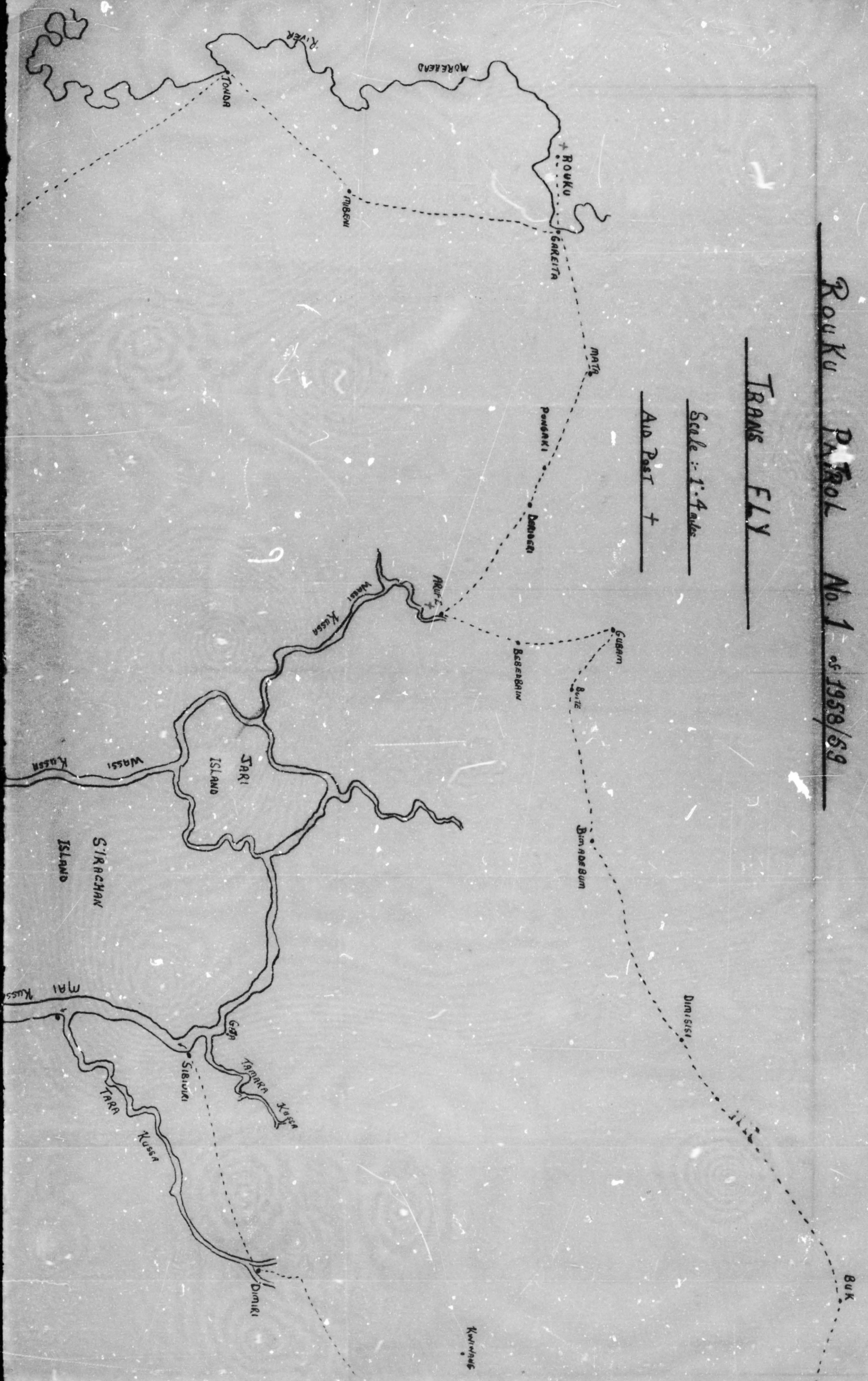
ITEM	Amount Taken on Patrol	HOW ISSUED						Amount Returned to Store
		Issues to Police	Issues to Carriers	Payment of Carriers	Purchase of Food	Hire of Canoes	A.M.O.	
MARGARINE	36	21				1	4	
MATCHES	537	29		110	340	1	4	200
MEAT	46	HK	42			2	8	
RICE	197	90				12	22	75
SALT	6	5				1/2	3/4	
SOAP	43	6		12	23	5/8	1 2/3	
SUGAR	33	26				1	6	
TEA	5	3 1/2				1/4	1 1/4	
TOBACCO	1575	78		1000	320	3	20	145
KEROSENE	4	2					1	1
MIRRORS 4x9	24		9	6				9
" 7x4	27			20	7			
" 3x2	7				7			
HANDKERCHIEF	60			30	14			16
KNIFE BUSHY	12			3				8
" 8"	17			6	3			7
" 6"	24			20	4			5
" 4"	6				6			
CANOE ADZE	18			9				9
TOMAHAWK	12			7				5
BLADE RAZOR	100	22		13	50	1	4	
FISH LINE	36			17	6			18
HOOK FISH	187			74	100			18
ABOVE	INCLUDED IN BENSBAEN SPECIAL PATROL							

ROUKU PATROL No. 1 of 1958/59

TRANS FLY

Scale :- 1:4 miles

AID POST +

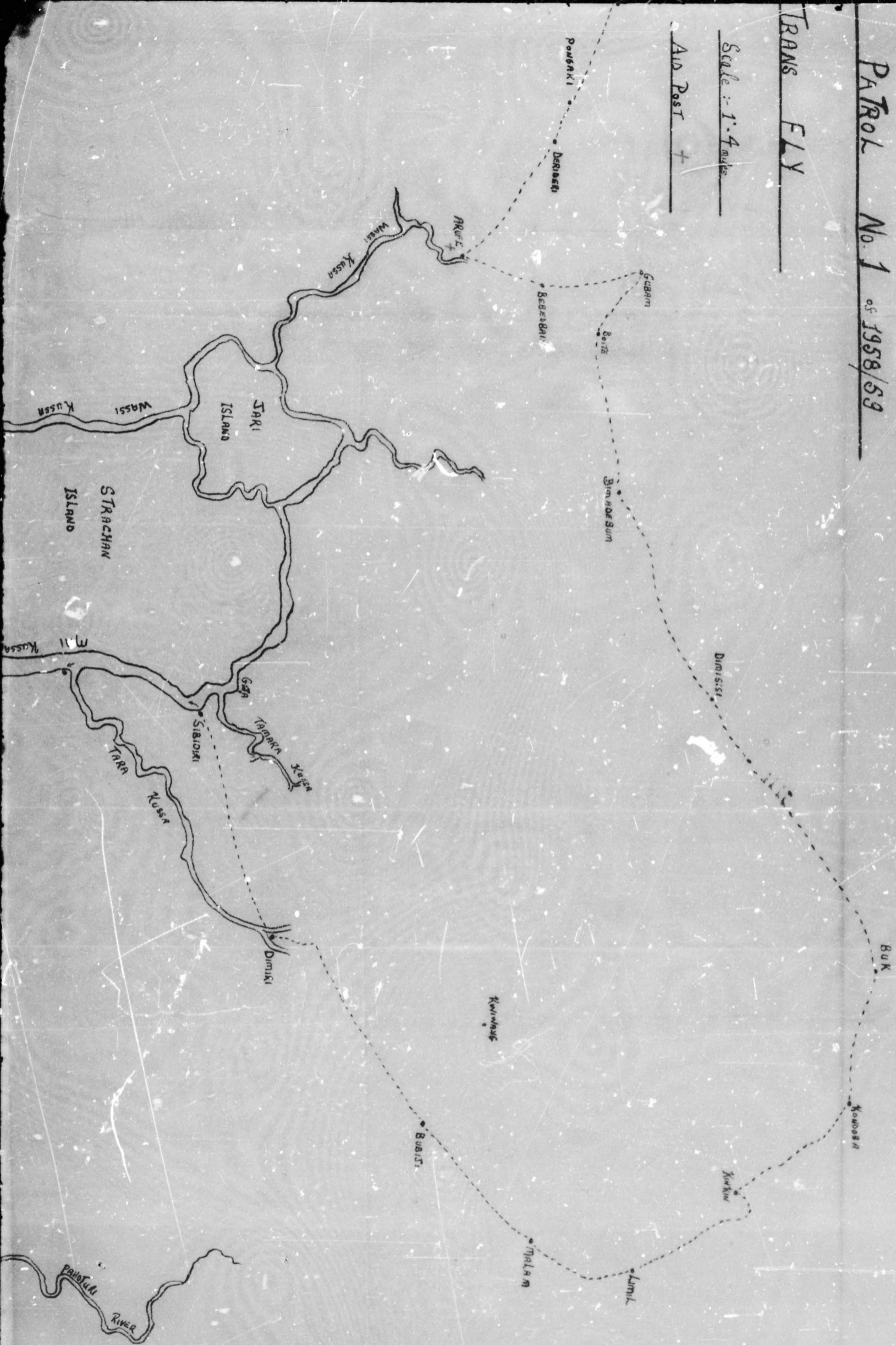


PATROL No. 1 of 1958/59

TRANS ELY

Scale: 1:4 miles

Aid Post +





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. ^{*Laika*} 2 of 1958/59

Patrol Conducted by G.F. Cooke Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled BESBACH CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL
3 members R.P. & N.G.C.

Natives 1 N.M.O.
2 interpreters

Duration—From 18 / 1 / 19 59 to 2 / 2 / 19 59

Number of Days 16

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services October / 19 58

Medical / / 18 54

Map Reference Trans Fly Sheet 1 inch equals 4 miles

Objects of Patrol Compilation Tax/Census Sheets

Routine Administration

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

..... / / 19

.....
District Commissioner

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

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

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

.....

.....

.....



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/4/52 ✓

F.P.V.R/RT.

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 30-1-2



District Office,
Western District,
BAKU.

Memorandum to:

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MCKESSEY.

Subject: ROUKU PATROL REPORT, 2/58-59. -
BENSBACH CENSUS DIVISION.

1. Patrols in this area do not present a very happy picture, there being little native progress evident in the area. Agricultural, Medical and Educational facilities are required in the near future.
2. Agriculture: There are two problems involved here, firstly cropping and, secondly, the promotion of cash cropping. The last agricultural patrol of the area took place in November of 1957 - a further patrol is due to take place in May next. Patrolling will do little to alleviate the situation pertaining here - what is in fact needed is the stationing at Rouku of at least two native Agricultural Assistants. Some work is being done by Department of Native Affairs officers but it is idle to suppose that they can spare sufficient time to make any real contribution to the solving of the problem. Pending experimentation with various subsistence and cash crops in the area, a start can be made in the promotion of increased subsistence cropping and in the planting of coconuts as both a subsistence and a cash crop. A further 1,000 seed-nuts have been supplied to Rouku in the last few days and further nuts will be supplied as they become available. In this respect it is pointed out that good quality seed nuts can be obtained from Biwai Island, should funds be made available and this would not only ensure regular supplies but prove considerably cheaper than bringing nuts from Barbara. It is of little use issuing nuts to the villagers and expecting them to plant and maintain them: constant advice and supervision will be required.
3. Medical: The nearest hospitalization facilities are at Daru and these are dependant only on shipping, which shipping, to Rouku itself, is comparatively infrequent. There is a M.H.C. stationed at Rouku but there is no provision for in-patients. A sum of £1,500 has been allotted for the moving from the A.P.C. site to Baraita of a hospital building, on the other hand Dr. Moody informs me that Dr. Seragg has informed him that, there is no hope, in the foreseeable future, of an European Medical Assistant being posted to Rouku. It is obvious that, in addition to medical attention, this area needs a survey, in order to determine the static, if not falling, birth-rate. Hospital facilities at Rouku are badly needed.

DASF have funds.

4. Education: Education, with a rural bias, is needed in the area. The couple of L.M.S schools in the Rouku area are, to all intents and purposes, useless. Ant schooling facilities provided would need to provide boarding facilities, due to the small and scattered nature of the population. It is suggested that a native teacher, or teachers could first be provided.
5. While it is obvious that the Rouku area has a small population and must take its turn with other areas of the district, and also that there is a five year plan covering district development, it is also obvious that very little has been accomplished in the two years during which the plan has been in operation - that is in respect to native economic and social development - and that something needs to be done. Not the least important aspect of the situation is that this border area is open to propaganda from the Dutch side and we know that there are disaffected elements on the Dutch side and that such elements have, on occasion, crossed the border -- again the Bensbach people do move on occasion into Dutch New Guinea.

Francis Robb
(F.P.V. Robb)
a/ District Officer.

MEMORANDUM OF PATROL

ROUKU

Patrol No. **2/1958-59** Sub-District **Daru** District **Western**

Officer Conducting Patrol **G.F. Cooke, Patrol Officer.**

Census Division Patrolled **BENSBACK**

Objects of Patrol **(i) Compilation of Tax/Census Sheets.**

(ii) Routine Administration.

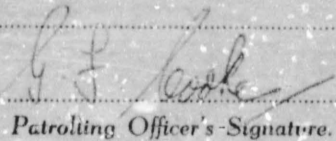
Date Patrol Commenced **18/1/59** Date Completed **2/2/59.**

Duration--days **16**

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE ARISING FROM PATROL

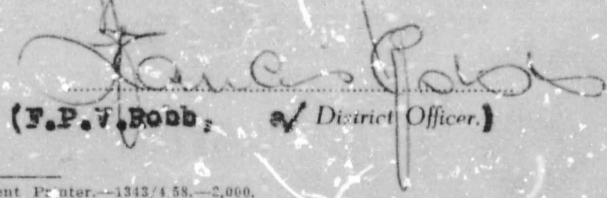
30/1/2 of 4/3/59. to District Commissioner.

30/1/2 of 4/3/59 to Director, D.N.A.



Patroling Officer's Signature.

I certify that all necessary local administrative action has been or is being taken on matters arising out of this patrol and that the correspondence above indicated by a "tick" has been forwarded to the Headquarters, Department of Native Affairs, Port Moresby.



(F.P.V. Bobb, District Officer.)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT - ROUKU No. 2 of 1958/59.

Patrol Conducted by:-	G.F. Cooke, Patrol Officer.
Area Patrolled:	Bensbach Census Division.
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans:	Nil
" " " Natives	3 members of the R.P. & N.G.C. 2 Interpreters 1 N.M.O.
Duration of Patrol:	18.1.59 to 14 2.2.59
Number of Days:	16 days
Medical Assistant Accompany:	No
Last Patrol to the Area. D.N.A.	October 1958. Special Report.
" " " " " P.H.D.	1954
Map Reference:	Trans Fly 4 miles to 1 inch.
Objects of Patrol:	Compilation of Tax/Census Sheet Routine Administration.

DIARY.

Sunday
18th. January

Departed ROUKU per M.V. "ELEVALLA" at 0900 and arrived BULA at mouth of the Morehead River at 2000hrs.

Monday
19th. January

M.V. "ELEVALLA" departed for the WASSI KUSSA at 0715 hrs. Census and medical inspection of BULA. Myriads of mosquitoes both day and night. Rice and peanuts issued for planting. 105 Baibara coconuts have been planted here.

Tuesday
20th. January

Departed BULA at 0800 hrs. Had to leave some cargo as not enough carriers. Arrived BUNDABER at 1430 hrs.

Wednesday
21st. January

Census and medical inspection of BUNDABER. Departed for WANDO at 1020 hrs. and arrived at 1140 hrs. Water is salty here. Rice has been planted recently. The L.M.S. have a native pastor here in charge of a school.

Thursday
22nd. January

Census and medical inspection of WANDO. Some migrations from here to Netherlands New Guinea. Rice and peanuts issued.

Friday
23rd. January

Departed WANDO at 0725 hrs. and arrived KOROMBO at 1055 hrs. Census and medical inspection. Rice and peanuts issued.

Saturday
24th. January

Departed KOROMBO at 0735 hrs. and arrived MENGETE at 1000 hrs. Census and medical inspection. Good gardens here and well kept but no food ready. Rice and peanuts issued.

Sunday
25th. January

Departed MENGETE at 0850 hrs. after rain and arrived KANDARISA at 1030 hrs. Census and medical inspection. Twins seen here. Departed KANDARISA at 1155 hrs. and arrived WEAM at 1345 hrs. Census and medical.

Monday
26th. January

Departed WEAM at 0655 hrs. and arrived WEREAVE at 1035 hrs. A pretty and cool village. Game and crocodiles abound. Census and medical inspection. Rice and peanuts issued. Request for an Aid Post here.

Tuesday
27th. January

Departed WEREAVE at 1055 hrs. and arrived WEAM at 1355 hrs. Departed WEAM at 1335 hrs. and arrived KANDARISA at 1750 hrs. Seeds issued.

Wednesday
28th. January

Departed KANDARISA at 0720 hrs. and arrived INDORODORO at 0850 hrs. Census and medical. 7 out of the 10 garlip nut trees given in October are doing very well. Rice and peanuts issued.

Thursday
29th. January.

Departed INDORODORO at 0700 hrs. and arrived TOKWA at 1020 hrs. Census and medical. A pleasant spot. Rice and peanuts issued.

Friday
30th. January

Departed TOKWA at 0715 hrs. and arrived WELBEFVRE at 1015 hrs. Census and medical.

la
MO
F
Saturday
31st. January

Departed WEMENIVRE at 0720 hrs. and arrived JOWKA at 1000 hrs. New track has been made and is good. Census and medical inspection. No rest house here so on to ROUKU at 1515 hrs. and arrived ROUKU at 1630 hrs.

Sunday
1st. February.

To GAREITA and return. Office in the afternoon.

Monday
2nd. February

Census of Rouku village in the morning. Rice, peanut and vegetable seed issued.

END OF DIARY.

INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL.

This Report is prepared in accordance with Circular Instruction No. 267 of the 24th. March, 1958.

The area patrolled lies to the south and west of the Station, between the Morehead River and the Dutch New Guinea Border. The country is flat and usually at this time of the year is under water. However due to the late start of the present 'wet' season the tracks were firm and dry, walking cooler than it was in October, the count green and fresh and the water cleaner than it is during the 'dry' season. Mosquitoes were in force at BULA both day and night but they were not seen after half an hours walk from that village till Wando. They were not seen again for the rest of the trip.

The water which is very muddy and unpleasant during the 'dry' had improved, though the water at Wando was very salty.

It is the custom of this area for the people of the village visited to provide food for all the carriers, even men from the closest villages. The buying of the food, which is cooked, by the patrol is the only opportunity of the people to obtain tobacco, soap, and other trade items. Some carriers accompanied the patrol for all or most of the time. As local foods are very scarce at this time of the year local purchases of food had to be supplemented by rice and meat.

The area is very quiet and peaceful and no untoward incidents were met with.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Like the people of the Tans Fly the people seem most uninterested in anything. They are very apathetic and there is no gaiety or color about them at all.

Previous patrols have explained the benefits of larger gardens, planting more coconuts and planting a greater variety of food. These instructions have not been followed and the present shortage of food is not new to the people. The people in the area will not starve but they will have to economise in their meals.

Most of the people spend their time in the small garden hamlets, which are in some cases up to eight (8) hours walking from the village. Water is another problem and village sites over the years have been changed a number of times. In most of the villages the housing is poor and only very half hearted attempts have been made to remedy this state of affairs.

One pleasing feature is the state of the roads. On the whole they were clean and it appeared that some work had been put into them.

The economic situation of the area presents a frightening picture. BULA and BUNDABER are the only villages which have produced any copra in the past. In most of the other villages the trees are old, the nuts are small and are definitely not suited for copra production. Instructions were given on this patrol for areas near each village to be cleared and when this is done two men who have been to the Copra school at Samarai will peg out the area. The Agricultural officer in Daru has promised to obtain as many seed coconuts from Baibara as possible and it is hoped to plant up this area with good nuts. But the question remains as to what is going to happen till the coconuts are ready for copra. There are numerous crocodiles in the Bensbach River according to the locals and every encouragement will be given to help them obtain skins. This will provide some income. The area at present is not taxable and wont be able to stand taxes for some time to come.

A tak-grip has been promised to the Station by the end of February and this will be of great assistance in the administration of the area. However thought will have to be given for the provision of a better type of vehicle in the near future. It has been proved that Landrovers are suitable here and are used in the area without good prepared roads.

NATIVE AFFAIRS Cont'd.

Some thought will have to be given to the provision of water transport in the area. Both the Trans Fly and the Bensbach have excellent navigable waterways.

The villages near the Border look more to the Dutch side than to this side. Schools and aid posts are in one of the villages not many hours walk from the border. TOTAR and SOTAR are two reasonably large villages near the Border. There seems to be a lot of movement across the Border and a number of villagers from this side have settled in Dutch Territory. One of the migrants being an ex-village constable.

The people of the area are unable to help themselves without Administration Assistance. It is not advocated to provide everything gratis and supply everything that is asked for but encouragement must be given and that of a economic nature. A low economic council area with the right to borrow money, if approved, is out of the question as the area will practicably have to start from scratch. Money will have to be spent in the form of expert advice, Aid Posts, schools, and some materials.

Village Constables were paid their annual stipend this patrol.

No complaints were brought before the Court of Native Masters.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK.

Food is now short in the whole area. There is no surplus available for sale to the Station. Taro is the main food. Previous officers have extolled the virtues of sweet potato practically none has been planted. Siporas were seen in three villages. Pineapples were scarce and very few bananas or paw paws were seen. At KOROMBO the patrol purchased a few very small tomatoes and some oranges. Watermelon was seen at two places.

At WANDO the rice that was given to them in 1957 was recently planted. It seemed to be healthy. Some barley was seen here too.

Coconuts on the whole are very poor and in a lot of places very old. The planting of new coconuts is being encouraged and shortly a policeman will visit some of the villages to give advice re the planting of same. Two men from BULA were sent to Samarai a year or so ago but from what the writer has seen of their work they are very lazy. 105 seed nuts from Baibara are in a nursery at BULA.

In October the writer gave to a number of villages some garlip nuts to plant and INDORODORO was the only village to plant them. 7 out of the 10 nuts they received are doing very well.

Rice, peanuts and vegetable seeds were distributed on this patrol.

Approximately 75 pigs were seen and most of these were in pens. However instructions were given to move the pens further back from the perimeter of the village as in all cases they were too close to the houses.

A total of about six fowls were seen.

Game was plentiful and a lot was seen though not much shot due to the high grass and the bush.

It is hoped, and this will be the subject of a letter to the District Agriculture Officer at Daru, that an Agricultural Officer or an experienced Agricultural Assistant can visit this area prior to the harvesting of the rice crop, which should be about the end of May. An officer would be able to render invaluable assistance as to the harvesting, winnowing and preparing the rice for storage and consumption.

If this crop is successful it is hoped that large areas, especially around WANDO could be planted.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH.

N.M.O. KANAE of the Rouku Hospital carried out an inspection at each village. A list of treatments to be found in Appendix 'F'.

The health may be classified as fair. There seems to have been an increase in sickness in the last few years. This is possible due to lack of treatment and the poor washing facilities available in most villages.

The people from the more distant villages are on the whole loath to visit the hospital at the station unless invitations are issued. Children are the ones to suffer most but the parents claim to have brought their children in for treatment but the complaints have flared up again when they have returned to the villages. The N.M.O.'s have visited the area three times since August but it is feared that the arduous travelling conditions dulls their enthusiasm.

There are no aid posts in this area. Though there is only a present population of 616 people they live in an area of approximately 1500 square miles. Recently Caset Medical Officer A. Milne visited ROUKU and IOWKA villages as well as some of the Trans Fly Villages and it is believed he was to write a report on his findings on his return to Daru.

The people of WEREAVE Village asked if an aid post could be established in their village and one of the men asked if he could be trained for the position of Aid Post Orderly. It was explained that Standard VII was required. Through no fault of their own the necessary educational qualifications have not been reached and it is requested that people from elsewhere in the District or Territory be sent to man aid posts until such time as these people have attained the necessary qualifications.

The most important question to be resolved for this area is the question of births. A subject as delicate as this and the reasons cannot be discussed at length in this report. As can be seen from perusal of Appendix 'E' the birth rate is not high. It is also to be remembered that the last Census Patrol was two years ago. A hospital is of prime importance to the area. It needs to be staffed by a European Medical Assistant and he could make and carry out an extensive survey into the problems behind the low birth rate.

Two sets of twins were seen on the patrol. One set was only a few months old but the other set was two years old. Both sets were boys. Multiple births assistance will be requested for the more recent twins in accordance with P.H.D Circular No. 362 of the 23rd October, 1958.

Sanitation and hygiene was in general satisfactory.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Most of the area is flat or gently undulating and dissected with small streams. They are dry for most of the year and in general shallow and in the majority of cases bridges are not needed. A large part of the area is inundated in the 'wet' season and motor transport could not be used. However in the 'dry' season which lasts for approximately seven to eight months of the year transport can be used to reach all the villages in the Division.

It is very pleasing to record that the people have built and maintain good walking tracks through their area. This is especially gratifying considering the long distances between villages and the lack of any equipment bar a few spades.

A plan of good roads through the area is being embarked on and it is hoped to have all the villages linked with good trafficable roads. Impetus to this work will be given on arrival of the trak-grip.

- 7 -

EDUCATION.

The London Missionary Society have a school at WANDO and one at ROUKU. These schools are manned by a native pastor. The school at WANDO has 39 pupils comprising 23 boys and 16 girls. The teacher seems keen and intelligent enough but the school is left without a teacher for long periods as the pastor journeys to Daru or Moresby for conferences and leave. The school building was neat and tidy and a number of text books and slates were seen. It is doubted if any of the pupils have reached Standard 1. The pastor has closed the school while the patrol was in the village and then he went off on a visit to ARUFE. The school at ROUKU has been inoperative since September last. This state of affairs is not new and has been mentioned in all previous reports.

Education is sorely needed in the area and an Administration boarding school should be established at GARETTA. As mentioned under Health that some of the men wanted to be trained as Air Post Orderlies but they were not literate. It is doubted if there is one really literate person in the whole area.

MISSIONS.

Most of the remarks under Education apply here. The people do not appear to be as interested in the Missions as they are in other areas. If continual attendance by the pastors could be maintained it would make a difference but the people seem to be dissatisfied at the prolonged absences. Visits from the European missionaries should be made regularly.

TAXATION AND CENSUS.

This Census Division is at present not taxable. The Tax/Census sheets were compiled. Talks were given in each village about the new taxation laws and it is hoped that this will provide some incentive to plant more coconuts etc., even if its just to enable them to pay their taxes.

A perusal of the Population Register does not show a very bright future. The last census was conducted in February 1957. There have been only 30 births, and 19 deaths. There were 35 Migrations 'In' and 41 Migrations 'Out', some of these were in to Dutch New Guinea. 6 men were absent at work outside the District, 3 of them are members of the Police Force. One man from Rouku is employed as a General Labourer at the Station. Of a total of 132 women of child bearing age 5 only are pregnant. The total population of 616 is one less than the previous total. There are 36 emm over the age of 45 and 44 women.

CONCLUSION.

The area is very peaceful. The people living in harmony with their neighbours. The people seem quite contented with their lot and despite an annual food shortage have done nothing to remedy it. Gardens are being planted at present and are nearly finished. Hunting provides recreation and food. There is a plentiful supply of game at the present but not a great deal of bird life.

As in the Trans Fly the three main requirements are Education, Health and Agriculture. Health is required not so much to attend to the few sick but to attempt to find some means to overcome the low birth rate. Agriculture to attend to their venal wants and to boost their economy. Education's task is to prepare them to take their place on an equal footing with the rest of the Territory. If something is not done soon the area will continue to be a drag and a liability to the Administration. With the spending of some money and the provision of services to advise the locals they could become self sufficient and not an economic drain on the Administration.

G. J. Cooke
G. J. Cooke, P.O.

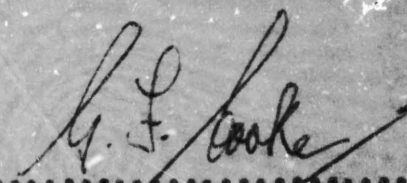
Patrol Report - ROKU No. 2 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'A'.

Report on members of the Royal Papuan and New Guinea Constabulary.

Reg.No. 5082	L/Cpl. PANDIKMAR	A good and reliable N.C.O. Has good bearing and command.
Reg.No. 9660	Const. YAUM	A good and pleasant type. Worked well.
Reg.No. 9976	Const. ATTA	Good as usual. A steady type and cheerful.

The police on patrol worked well together and used their initiative. Discipline was of a high standard and so was their bearing and drill. They were helpful to the locals and gave advice on the planting of rice.

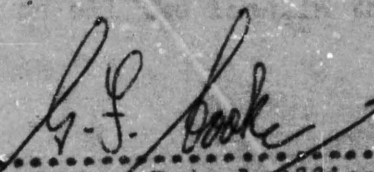

.....
(G.F. Cooke, Patrol Officer)

Patrol Report - ROUKU No. 2 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'B'.

Report on Alienated Land.

N I L.


.....
G.F. Cooke, Patrol Officer.

Patrol Report - ROUKU No.2 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'C'.

Waste and Vacant Land.

N I L

Hunting rights exist on all the land, in this area.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G. F. Cooke, P.O.)

Patrol Report - ROUKU No.2 of 1958/59.

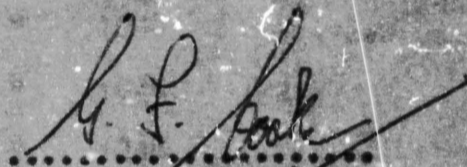
APPENDIX 'D'.

Patrol Officer's Stream Report.

The two large rivers in this area, the MOREHEAD and the Bensbach, are in the main wide and slow flowing.

The BENSBACH narrows in a number of places and if the need ever arose it is thought that a bridge could be constructed across this river without great difficulty.

The Stream Report is not submitted as NA. 24-1-7 of the 13th. September, 1957 refers.


.....
(G.F. Cooke, P.O.)

Patrol Report - ROUKU No.2 of 1958/59.

APPENDIX 'E'.

Total of Recorded Births in the Bensbach Census Division.

BULA	Recorded births since 1951	6	
BUNDAZER	" " " 1957	1	
WANDO	" " " 1948	19	
KOROMBO	" " " 1948	6	Nil since 1954
MENGETE	" " " 1948	12	
KANDARISA	" " " 1948	8	
WEAM	" " " 1948	33	
WEREAVE	" " " 1948	11	
INDORODORO	" " " 1948	16	
TOKWA WEMENEVRE	" " " 1948 ; " " " 1948	13	Included in the one census figures till '59.
IOWKA	" " " 1948	21	
ROUKU	" " " 1948	18	

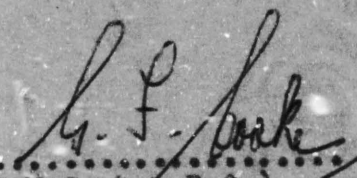
G. F. Cooke
.....
(G.F. Cooke, P.O.)

APPENDIX 'F'.

Treatment given on Patrol by N.M.O. Kapee.

TREATMENT ON PATROL:	131
INJECTIONS ON PATROL:	24
NUMBER SENT TO HOSPITAL:	50
YAWS:	3
CUTS AND SORES:	35
SCABIES:	1
TINEA TIBRICATIONA:	18
PNEUMONIA:	1
EYE TROUBLE:	6
SCABIES :	1
NUMBER OF BABIES TREATED:	20
NUMBER OF CHILDREN TREATED:	25

The above statistics are thought by the writer to be somewhat inaccurate. The writer observed many more cases of Tinea and Eye complaints.

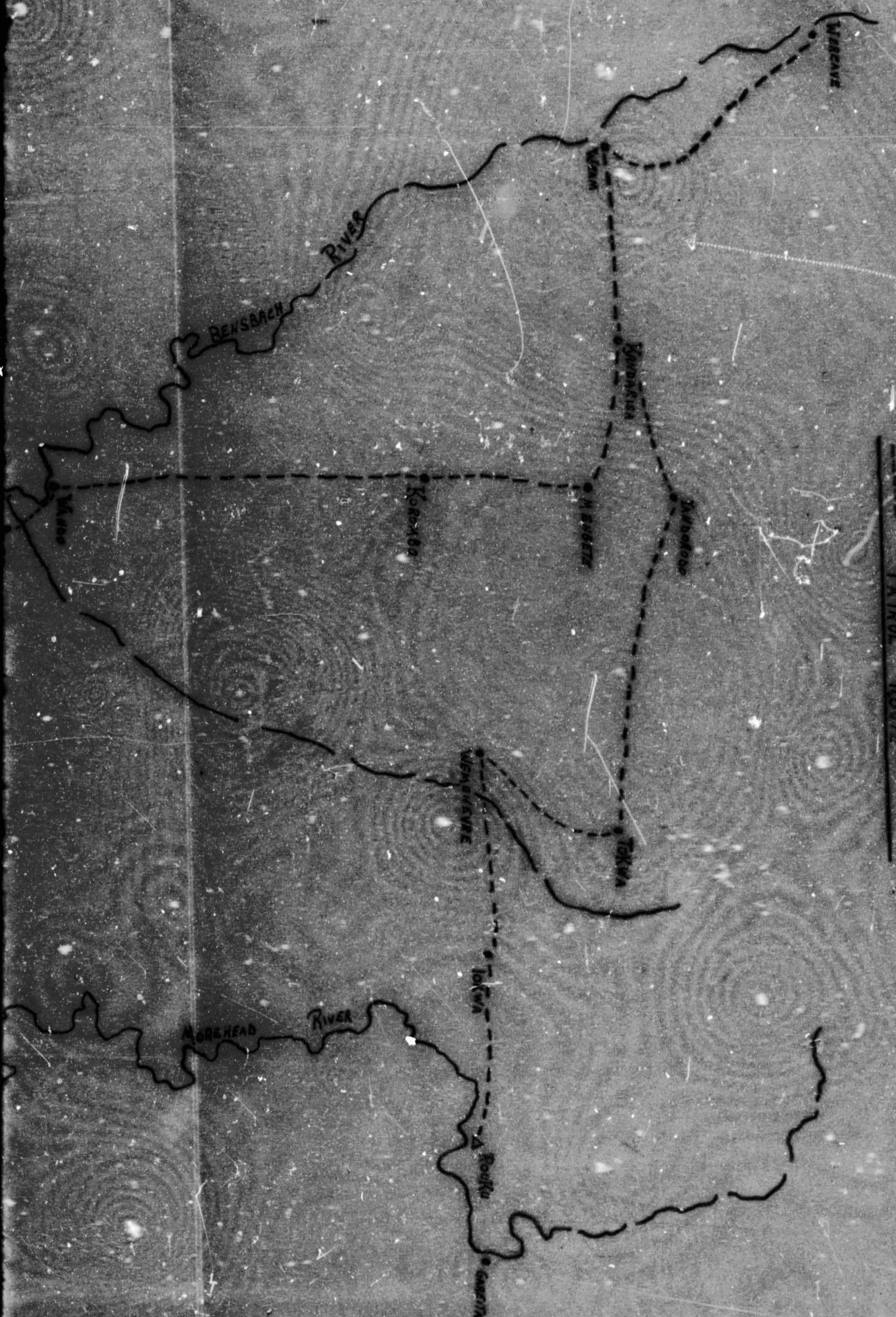

.....
(G.F. Cooke, P.O.)

STORES TAKEN ON PATROL

ITEM	Amount Taken on Patrol	HOW ISSUED					N.M.O	Amount Returned to Store
		Issues to Police	Issues to Carriers	Payment of Carriers	Purchase of Food	Price of Cakes		
MARGARINE	12	4	4	-	-	2	2	-
MEAT	48	2	30	80	150	4	2	114
MATCHES	288	12	24	-	-	8	4	-
SALT	12	12	4	-	-	1	1	-
SOAP	12	12	2	3	5	1	1	-
SUGAR	12	3	6	-	-	2	1	3
TEA	12	4	1	-	-	1	1	12
TOBACCO	924	22	60	200	195	8	4	32
HANDKERCHIEF	924	-	-	4	-	4	22	20
KNIF BUSH 6"	12	-	2	1	-	-	-	15
BLADE RAZOR	120	3	-	50	154	2	1	-
LINE FISH	24	-	-	5	80	-	-	18
HOOK FISH	100	-	-	35	6	-	-	79
BEADS TRADE	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	5
RICE	112	40	42	-	-	20	10	-

AUSTRIAN

BORDER



RODKU PATROL No 2-1958/9

BENSBACH CENSUS DIVISION

PATROL ROUTE

DUTCH - AUSTRALIAN BORDER



DUTCH -- AUSTRALIAN BORDER





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. BOLLEU No. 3 1958/59

Patrol Conducted by K. W. C. Humphreys, Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Bensbach Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. J. R. Forster, B.N.A.

Natives 2 N.P. & N.G.C. 2 N.M.O.s 1 Personal Servant

Duration—From 11/4/1959 to 22/4/1959 22 Carriers

Number of Days 12

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? Yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 2/2/1959

Medical 18/1954

Map Reference As per Map attached

Objects of Patrol Routine Administration

Anti-Yawa

Director of Native Affairs,

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

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MIG

In

M A F

30-4-55

~~XXXXXXXX~~
KONEMOHU

27th August, 1959.

The District Officer,
Western District,
DARU.

ROUTINE PATROL REPORT NO. 3 of 1958/59

The Bensbach Division is receiving some concentrated attention. Follow-up patrols are always more effective than those which occur too long after to effectively check previous service by the preceding officer.

Mr. Cooke's praise of Mr. Humphrey's work has been noted at this Headquarters.

A routine patrol adequately covered by the Officer's-in-Charge memorandum.

(Handwritten signature)
(A. J. [unclear])
~~XXXXXX~~

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/4/59 ✓

FPVR/RT.

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 30-1-2.



District Office,
DARU, Western District.

6th May, 1959.

Memorandum to:

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Subject: ROUKU PATROL REPORT NO. 3 OF 1958/59.

Reference: Morehead memo 30/1-51 of the 24/4/59.

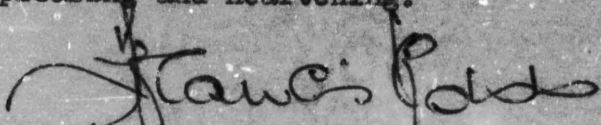
Forwarded herewith please find the above-numbered patrol report.

The District Medical Officer has been approached and is providing staff immediately an aid-post has been constructed at MENGETE. Mr Cooke will undoubtedly press on with this work.

The planting of coconuts is being energetically pressed ahead under Mr. Cooke's supervision and additional attention is now being given to the area in question. A further 2,000 seed nuts are in process of purchase from Kiwai Island and these will be sent to the ROUKU area.

Work will be commenced on the opening of the road to Wando and the few culverts needed, thus allowing entry of the Trak-Grip soon to reach Rouku.

The amount of work going forward in the whole of the Rouku area is most pleasing and heartening.


(F.P.V. Robb)
a/ District Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File:- 30/1 - 51

Patrol Post,
Western District,
MOREHEAD.

24th. April, 1959.

District Officer,
Western District,
D. A. N. U.

ROUKU PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1958/59.

Please find enclosed three copies of the above mentioned report.

It is only less than two months ago since the last patrol to the area but some changes seem to have occurred especially in regard to Agriculture. A visit from a medical assistant has been appreciated and a more reliable picture has been obtained of the health in the area.

NATIVE AFFAIRS. Remains the same. I don't think that there has been any passive resistance to the Administration only a general feeling of apathy.

HEALTH. The health of the area is, in general, fair. It is recommended that an Air Post be established at MENGETE. This village commands a central position in the Pensbach and is only a few hours walking from the Border. Sister exchange is practised in most parts of the Territory but without the attendant low birth rate as found in this area. It may have something to do with it but it does not entirely explain it. One of the many explanations could be a mental attitude. Years ago the Tuger from across the border carried out periodic raids and the people probably did not wish to be encumbered with young children. With the establishment of an air post in the area and increased agricultural activity the women may be more willing to bear more children.

AGRICULTURE. Rice obviously is not a good crop for the area, except at WANDU. If it continues to do well there large areas could be planted and it would provide an income and food for that village. Peanuts are doing well. Since the last patrol 216 coconuts have been planted and areas marked for a further 324. Soon in the six weeks since the last patrol the people have been enthusiastic in the agricultural fields, planting rice, peanuts and coconuts and also clearing land preparatory to planting coconuts. Normal foodstuffs are in very short supply and all the people are hungry but not starving. Mr. E. M. A. Forsters report is awaited with interest.

This is Mr. Humphreys' last patrol in the area and was carried out in a capable manner. Mr. Humphreys has so far proved a keen and capable officer.

For your information, please.

G. F. Cooke
.....
(G. F. Cooke, O. I. C.,
Morehead)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Rouku Patrol Post

25th April 1959

O.I.C.
Rouku Patrol Post.

PATROL REPORT - ROUKU No. 3 of 1958/59

Patrol Conducted by:- K.W.C. Humphreys Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled:- Bensbach Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans:- Mr. I.G. Forster E.M.A.

Patrol Accompanied by Natives:-
2 R.P.&N.G.C.
2 N.M.O.s
1 Personal Servant
22 Carriers

Duration of Patrol:- 11.4.59 to 22.4.59

Number of days:- 12 days

Medical Assistant Accompany:- Yes

Last Patrol to Area- D.N.A.:- February 1959

Last Patrol to Area- P.H.D.:- 1954

Map Reference:- As per map Attached

Objects of Patrol:-
Routine Administration
Anti-Yaws

K. Humphreys.
K. Humphreys
Cadet Patrol Officer

PATROL DIARY

Saturday
11th April.

0900 Departed Rouku Patrol Post on M.V. URANGAH.
1930 Arrived BULA village at mouth of Morehead R.
Unloaded. Slept.

Sunday 12th

Anti-Yaws- Village inspection. Slept.

Monday 13th

0800 Departed BULA by road.
1230 Arrived BUNDABER Canoe Place.
1300 Departed Canoe Place by canoe with majority
of patrol gear. Remainder of patrol went on
by road, arriving at village in 1 1/2 hours.

1600 Self and Mr. Forster arrived BUNDABER.
Anti-Yaws. Village inspection. Slept.

Tuesday 14th

0830 Departed BUNDABER with 7 small canoes.
0945 Reached the BENSBACH River and proceeded
upstream.

1045 Arrived WANDO.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection. Slept.

Wednesday 15th

0815 Departed WANDO in canoes.

1030 Arrived KOROMBO Canoe Place.

1100 Departed Canoe Place by road.

1230 Arrived KOROMBO.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection.

1400 Departed KOROMBO by road.

1645 Arrived MENGETE.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection. Slept.

Thursday 16th

0900 Departed MENGETE after garden inspection.

1045 Arrived KANDARISA.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection.

1200 Departed KANDARISA.

1415 Arrived WEAM.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection. Slept.

Friday 17th

Mr. Forster to WEPLAVE for Anti-Yaws and Village
inspection. Self remained WEAM with foot trouble.
Mr. Forster returned afternoon. Slept.

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In
A P
Saturday 18th

0830 Departed WEAM

1100 Arrived KANDARTSA.

1200 departed KANDARTSA.

1415 Arrived INDORODORO.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection. Slept.

Sunday 19th

0830 departed INDORODORO.

1315 Arrived TOKWA.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection. Slept.

Monday 20th

0830 departed TOKWA.

1115 Arrived WEMENEVRE.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection. Slept.

Tuesday 21st

0830 departed WEMENEVRE.

1130 Arrived TOKWA.

Anti-Yaws. Village inspection.

1250 Mr. Forster and self departed TOKWA on bicycles.

Remainder of patrol to follow by road.

1410 Mr. Forster and self arrive ROUKU Patrol Post.

Wednesday 22nd

Anti-Yaws and village inspection of ROUKU village.

INTRODUCTION:

Essentially this patrol had two objects:

- (a) A follow up patrol to the DPA patrol of January-February No.2 58/59
- (b) To escort Mr. Forster EMA on his first patrol, this being an Anti-Yaws- the first one in the Rouku area.

The attendance figures in each village were good, the Village Constables having made an effort towards total attendance, though this was not a Census Patrol.

The Bensbach area has an approximate area of 1700 s. miles and the population is 600, giving a population density of slightly more than 1 person to 3 square miles. The terrain is not inspiring as the whole of the country is perfectly flat. The only exception to this were some 50ft high ridges 2 miles west of Rouku Patrol Post in an area of semi-rain-forest. Seen generally the land is covered with titree shrub and "blady" grass. The only relief is obtained from this monotonous landscape are the village sites where tall palms and copious shade create a pleasant atmosphere. An interesting feature are the wide open plains on the BULA-BUNLABER route- a scene which at this time of the year could be likened to an extensive wheat farm on the Queensland Darling Downs - the tall grass and the absence of trees except on the horizon.

Due to the rains of the past 2 months the area was 70% swamp, the roads muddy and many times underwater. Small creeks, that in the DRY are nonexistent, were numerous and much use was made of canoes- total canoe travelling time being 8 hours. The canoe travel on the route from BULA to KOROBO was strikingly similar to canoe travel in Lake Murray when the Lake level was down. Draining seemingly endless swamps the Bensbach River was indeterminate, the only proof of its presence being its depth which could not be judged with the 2-3 fathom poles that were used to propel the canoes.

Game was not plentiful due to the wet conditions, only 2 laganis being shot. Fishing is suspended in the high water season and no crocodiles were seen. Water supplies were good and in the majority of cases the water was drinkable without boiling.

NATIVE AFFAIRS:

The attitude of the people towards the Government is improving slightly due to an arising awareness of what is trying to be done. In the past seven months there has been a visit by an officer of the P.I.R., a Census patrol, and this combined DPA and PHD patrol. Next month an Agricultural patrol is planned.

The people have either seen or heard of the construction of the new patrol post at GAREITA upriver from ROUKU. An increase in DPA staff, a recent visit to the Rouku Post by the District Commissioner and District Officer, and the commencement of a regular Quantas Otter service to the Wassi-Kussa River have certainly showed the people in the whole of the Rouku area that they are now going to receive continual attention and help from officers of all departments. Six children are being sent to the Orione school in the near future and this is going to help break down the barrier of passive resistance to the work of the Government.

Generally speaking the people are not colourful and XMA seem to have a "couldn't care less" attitude. To advance the area it is quite apparent that any impetus or desirability for advancement will have to be induced into these people by the Government- I cannot see it coming from the people themselves. It is quite possible that my opinions will

change in the next 12 months as they see more activity and expansion in the Rouku area by the Government, and realize that it is for their benefit. As I said above there is a definite awakening of interest at the present moment but only time will tell whether there is to be the incentive to progress.

HEALTH:

The Anti-Yaws campaign was successfully carried out and in all villages the people welcomed the opportunity of obtaining medical treatment.

The general health picture was only fair, exceptions being in WELIENEVRE and IORWA where the standard was good. There were many cases seen of tinea and sipoma and the dental picture was very bad. Quite a number of children had suspected TB glands. Mr. Forster's report will deal with these matters.

The London Missionary Society's native pastor at WANDO has conducted a small Airstrip there and at Rouku Post is the Government Airstrip staffed by 3 M.H.O.s who regularly patrol the Bensbach Census Division. Unfortunately this pastor at WANDO will be leaving in August and his successor has had no medical experience whatever. The dispersal of population and correspondingly long travelling times in the Bensbach area warrants the establishment of a Government Airstrip at either WANDO or MENGETE which would treat the population to the west and south while cases requiring treatment in the east could come to Rouku.

The physical appearance of the population was poor. Children were undernourished in many cases mainly due to the fact that food is never in good supply. At the present moment food is scarce and it is planned that in the next planting season more than sufficient will be planted under supervision.

Birth Problem:

Over the past eleven years in particular the population has been declining. This is mainly due to the very low birth rate. In one particular village KOROMBO there have been only 6 births since 1948, and none since 1954. In KANPARISA there have been 8 births since 1948. In 8 years the population has decreased by 81 persons.

The diet of this area is mainly a carbohydrate one. In the dry season game is plentiful. The diet consists of taitu, taro, maniot, bananas, fish, kaema, pineapple, custard apples, watermelon, pumpkin and tomatoes. The last 4 foods in smaller quantities are consumed. As can be seen this diet has variety though due to the seasons and the people's laziness the food is not always plentiful. At the present time the people are on the Breaflin and the patrol carrier lines need to be met from the patrol's own supplies of rice and meat. Some sago is consumed but only forms a small part of the diet.

This diet has quality if not quantity and there is no evidence that this could have a bearing on the low birth rate.

There is the possibility that there is no prenatal care of the pregnant mother. Apparently the men do not care in this case and it is probably the case with the women themselves. It was seen that new babies were all breastfed and that they appeared to be well taken care of in the majority of cases. The importance of caring for the pregnant mother and the newly born child has been stressed by previous officers.

The system of SISTER EXCHANGE is practised in the Bensbach area in all its forms.

One pernicious product of this system is the number of healthy young men of marriageable age who now have no chance of being married due to their not having a female at hand to exchange. Also quite a number are in the position of not being able to obtain a "sister" from relatives. In this case all they can do is to wait until they can marry a widow which they do at an age that does not lend itself to numerous and healthy children. Sister Exchange is shown in its worst light when older men are seen married to young wives due to the fact that sometimes these men who marry when young have the wider family associations to obtain another wife if the first wife dies. Again a man can obtain more than one wife when he has a brother or sister who marries and the partner dies thus enabling him to exchange his brother's wife or his own sister for a wife. This feature of the older men having the wives and the younger men being without was also seen in the Lake Murray area when numerous young men want to leave the village for good and sign on for work. The number of men in the Bensbach who have no chance of marrying in the near future must eventually move out or resign themselves to their fate - a state that will accelerate the population decrease.

In questioning periods it was seen that there is the attempt to prevent one village getting larger than the next. When a sister is exchanged between two men in different villages and one of the families begins to have children and the other either has none or a lesser number than the first then in the future the children of the bigger family ~~will~~ may not be able to marry due to the difference in numbers there being no marriage partners available for some of them. To prevent this happening it appears that there is some form of contraceptive used. The N.M.O.s were asked to discreetly enquire into this matter during the course of the patrol. However no information was obtained.

It appears that the declining population is due to SISTER EXCHANGE and a form of contraceptive, if any.

AGRICULTURE:

The only income in the Bensbach area at the present comes from the village of BULA where copra is produced and sent to Paru. This is only a small concern with one man operating it. At the present moment a coconut planting program is being implemented throughout the Rouku area with the aim that each village will plant at least 100 trees. Rice has been planted but on the whole is a failure - WANPO village having the only decent paddy. This matter will come under the attention of the forthcoming Agriculture patrol.

The diet has been set out under HEALTH. The gardens in the area are in general quite close to the village and are well fenced, the fences being 5 to 6 feet high and made of split bamboo. There are garden hamlets short distances away from the village proper and a great deal of the villagers' time is spent in these. Tobacco is grown in the villages in fair quantities.

Besides the future copra production, the only other potential cash crop appears to be peanuts. The peanuts seen were growing very well and were of a good size. The only drawback at present is that rats are eating the plants. This could be overcome. With the present peanut price at 6s per pound it would be worthwhile to start a peanut planting program under the direction of an Agricultural officer. He could also advise on the protection against mould and selection of crop. The transport costs would be very small with the nuts going to Paru either by boat or plane. Transport problems in the Bensbach area itself would present no difficulty with a system of roads suitable for a Trak Trip which is arriving at Rouku in the near future.

It has been suggested that the pineapples may be able to be cash crops. The area produces few pineapples and these are not very sweet or of good type. However the Agricultural Officer will further investigate this matter.

EDUCATION:

There are two L.M.S. Mission schools at present operating in this area. One at WANPO and the other at ROUKU. There has been a school at WEREAVE.

All instruction is in Motuan as well as the hymns. As stated in Rouku Patrol No. 2 58/59, an Administration school is badly needed in the Rouku area. The area has been entirely neglected in this respect, a poor state of affairs indeed after many years of Government influence.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:

Patrolling in this flat area is quite easy especially in the dry season. In general the roads were fair, a few roads being overgrown with grass as is to be expected after the rains. A road suitable for a Trak Grip is to be built from Rouku Post to WEAL, passing through the villages:- ROUKU, TOKMA, INDCRODCRO, and KANARIEA.

When the Australian Petroleum Coy. was stationed at SIBERAST down river from Rouku Post, most of the present roads were used by four wheel drive vehicles. These were most suitable in the wet season.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING:

All villages were clean and tidy and instructions were given that the whole of the village area was to be cleaned every day.

Housing in general was quite good, though a house does not present a pretty picture being made of bark walls and titree roof. Some houses have kunai thatch for the roofs. The houses are not soundly constructed and would require continual maintenance.

REST HOUSES AND POLICE BARRACKS:

Rest houses are in all villages except TOKMA where construction on one is about to commence. All are of good standard and design.

Police barracks in most villages are adequate.

SANITATION AND HYGIENE:

The sanitation and hygiene picture is satisfactory. All latrines were inspected and 4 were condemned and instructions given to construct new ones. In most cases the method of disposal of garbage were unsatisfactory. Orders were given concerning future disposal.

LANGUAGE:

There are 2 Linguistic areas in the Pensbach:-

GAIBADI : BULA, BANDABER, and WANPO villages.

SEMARIJA: The remaining 10 villages.

There are seven dialects as shown in Appendix "A" with the corresponding villages. Motuan serves as a good lingua franca though the percentage of the population that can speak it would be 60%. Surprisingly some Village Constables and Councillors cannot understand it.

CRIME AND COMPLAINTS:

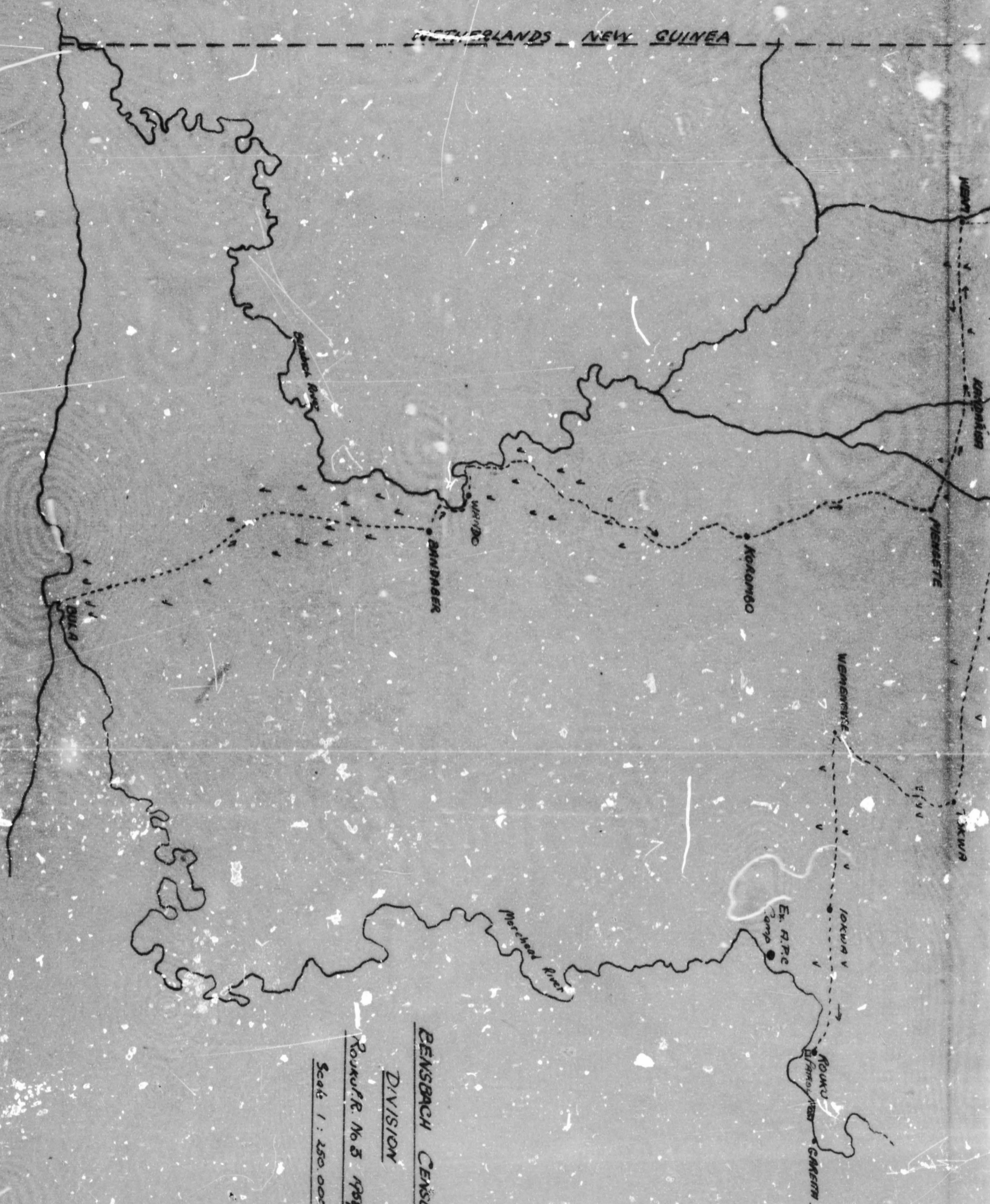
NIL.

H. Humphrey
C.P.O.

APPENDIX "A"

DIALECT	VILLAGE
1. Raieva	BULA and BANGABIR (Gamba)
2. Hulabono	WANDO and KOROLEO (WANDO is Semarja)
3. Merapona	WEAM and MA-DARISA
4. Marapona	MENCETE and INDORODORO
5. Marapuna	WEMEAWE
6. PO'RUIIDARA	WEMENEVRE
7. Ranata	IOMIA and MOUKU.

NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA



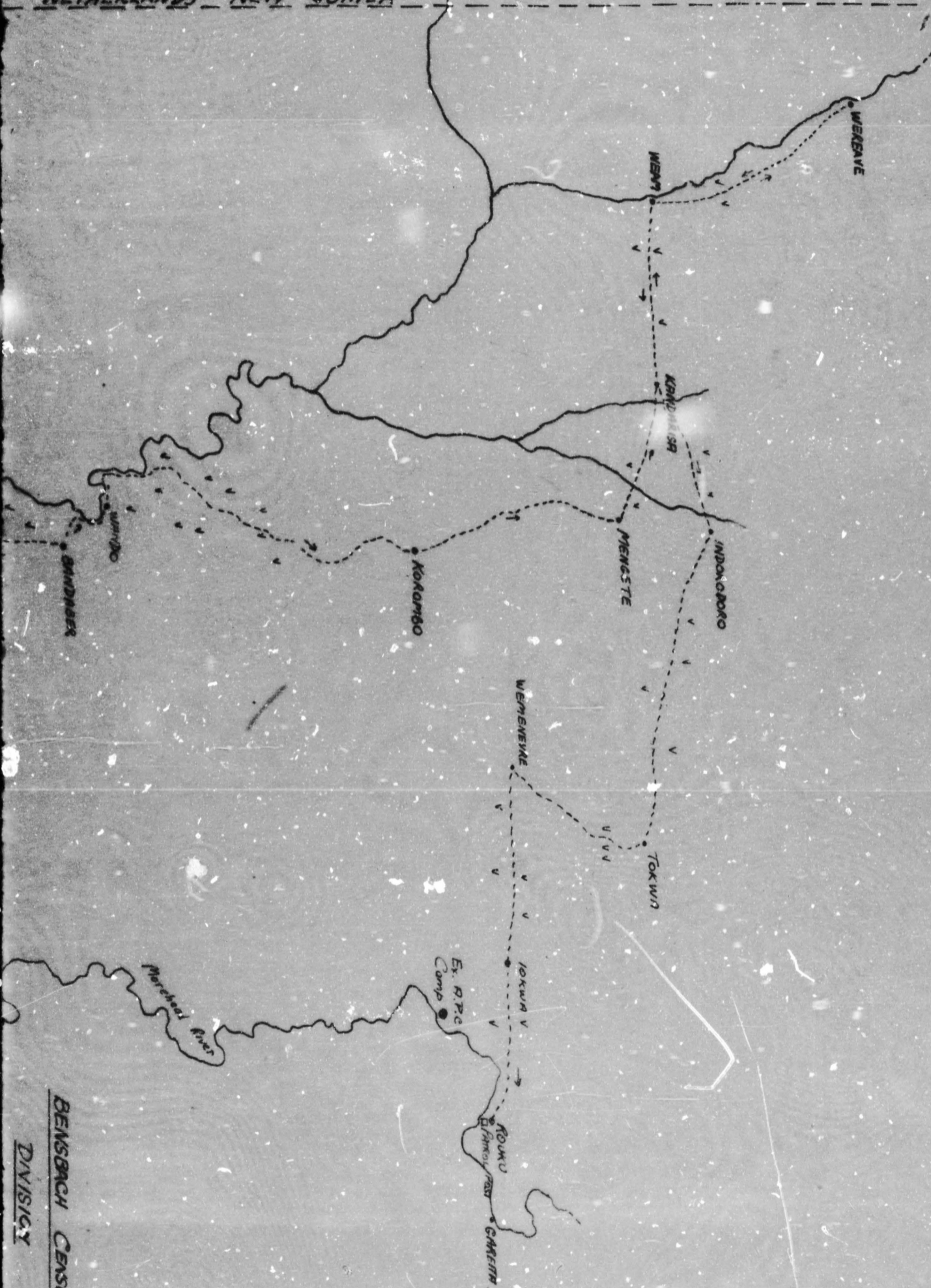
BENSBACK CENSUS

DIVISION

Roouf.R. No 5 1949.

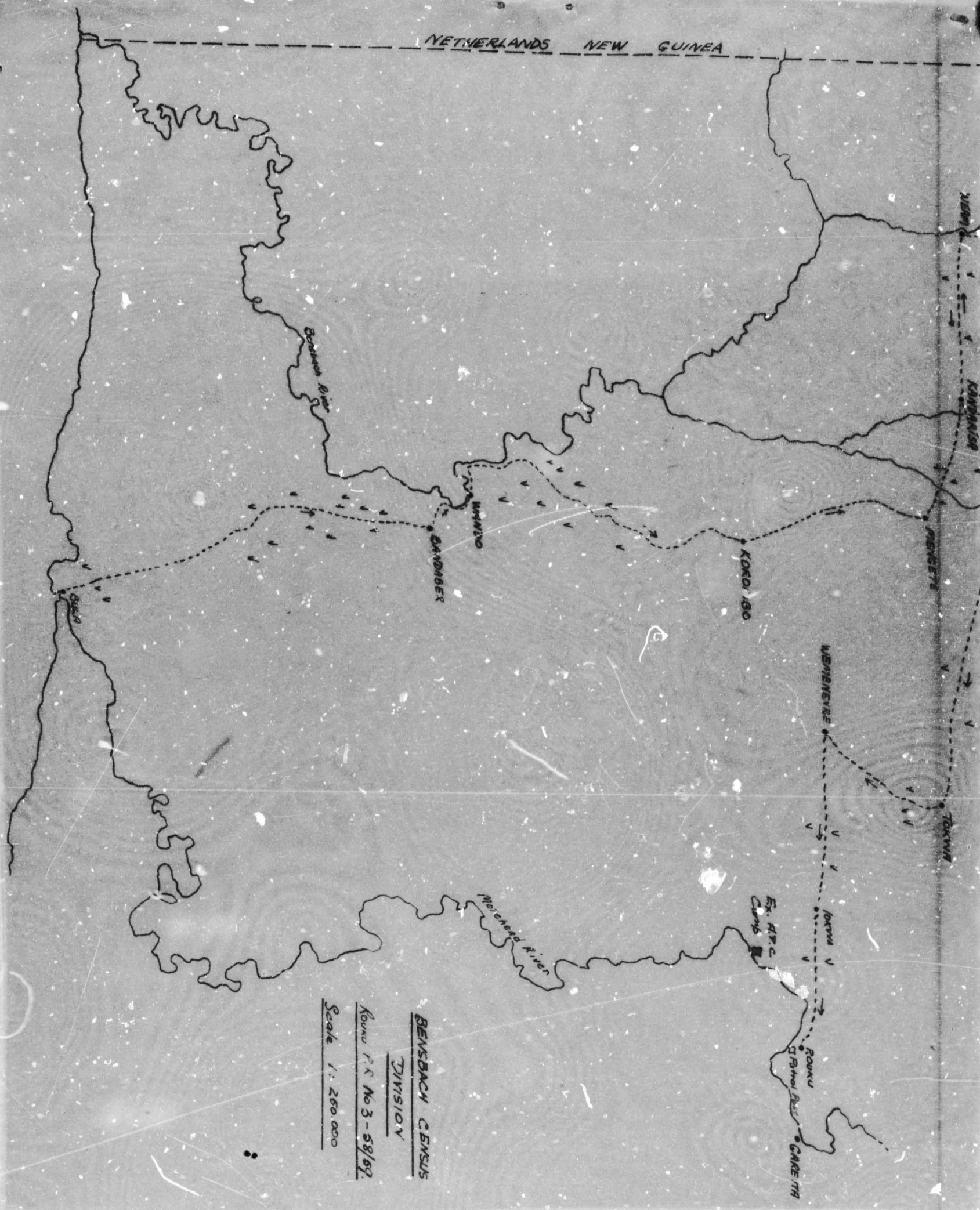
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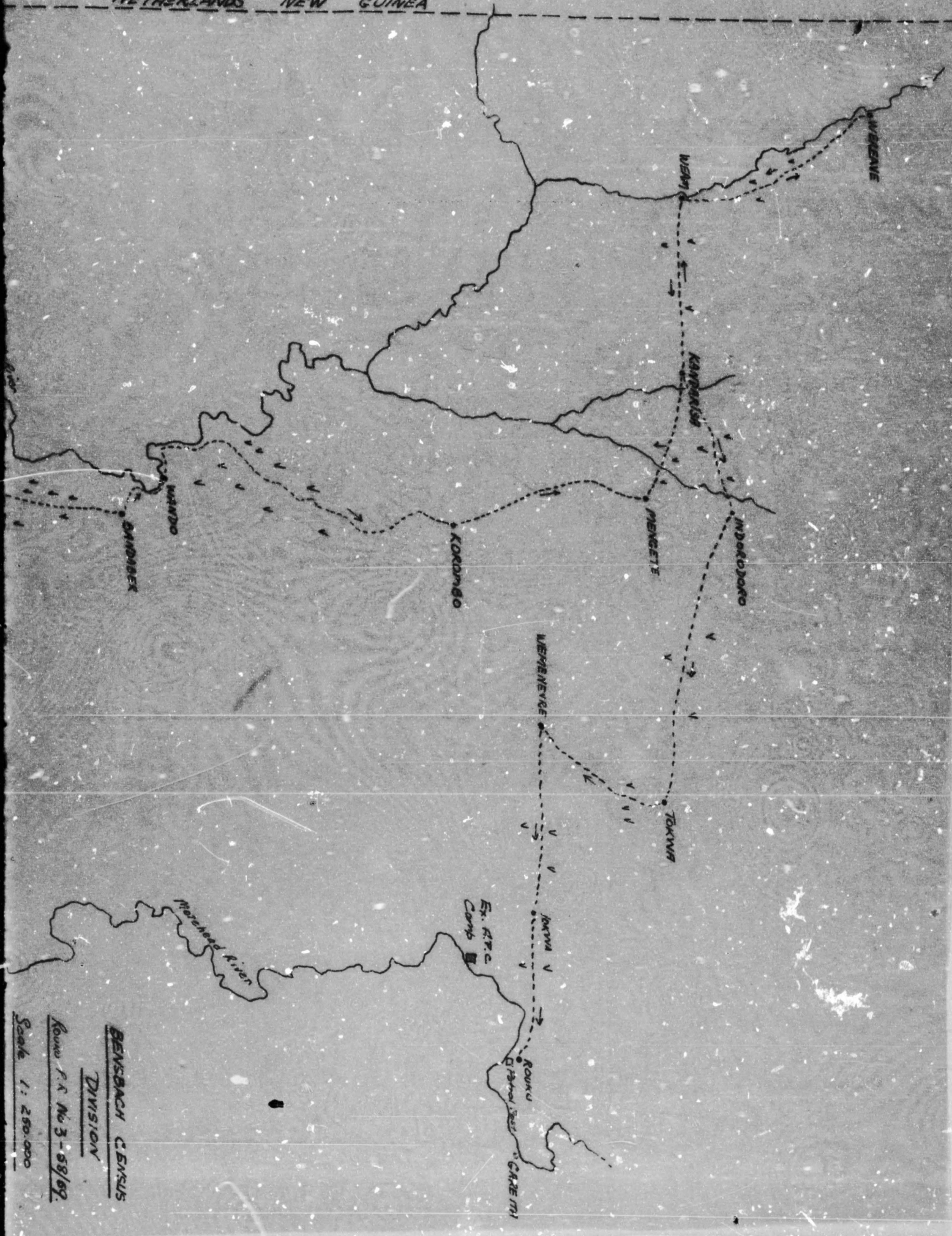
BENSBRACH CENSUS
DIVISION

NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA



BENSBACK CENSUS
DIVISION
 Kouu P.R. No 3-58/59
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NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA



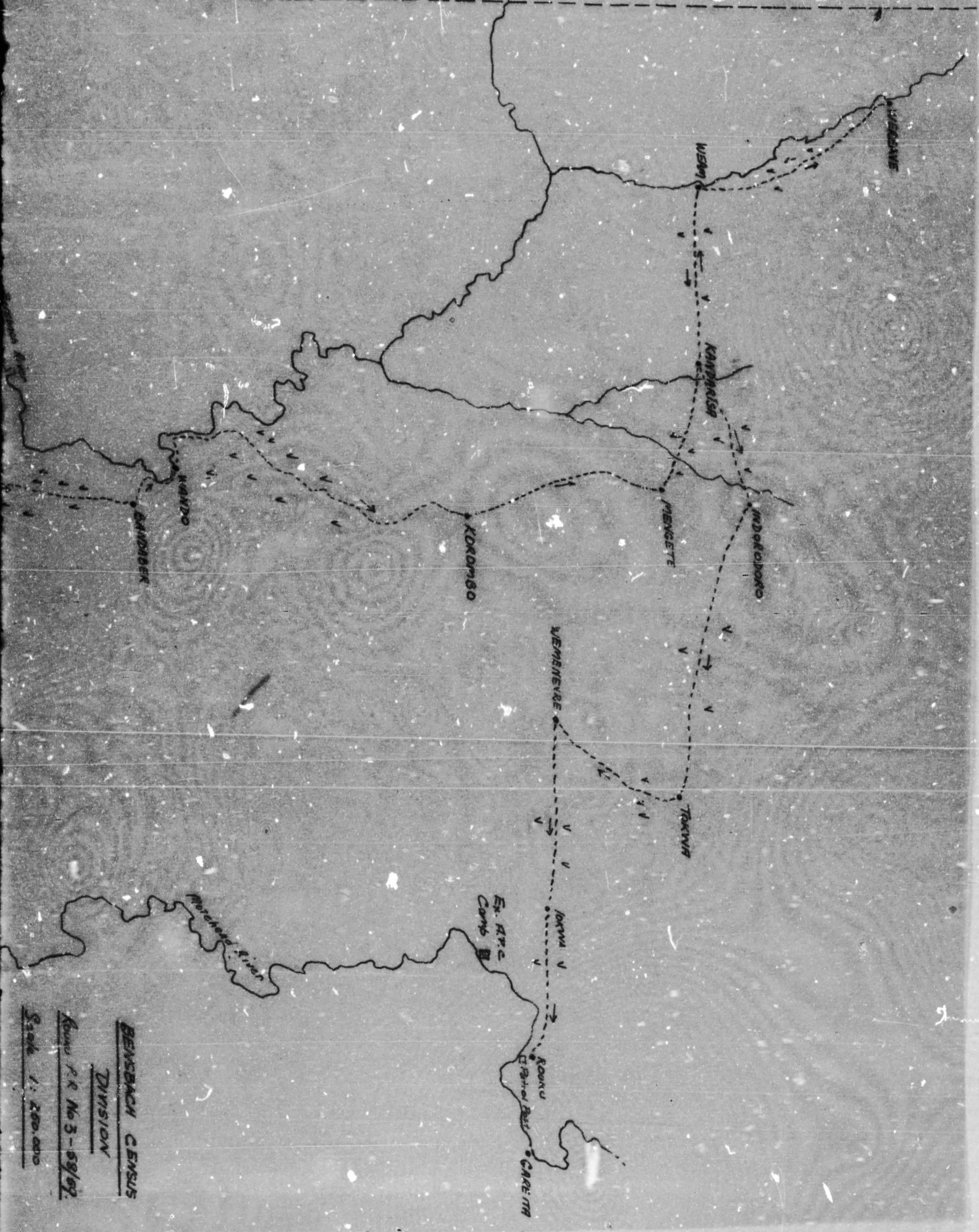
BENSCHACH CENSUS

DIVISION

Rouw P.A. No 3-58/69.

Scale 1: 250,000

NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA



BEHNBACH CENSUS

DIVISION

Koum P.R. No 3-58/59.

Scale 1:200,000

NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA

