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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PORT MORESBY

67-8-19

Department of Native Affairs,
Konedobu, Papua.

10th January, 1961.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
NSMAM.

PATROL NO. 2 of 1960/61 - ANANAE

Thank you for the above report and your covering comments.

2. The Patrol was very well conducted and the report is most informative.
3. I consider that Mr. Corrigan handled the Petaineri incident very well, but I should like to see another strong patrol visit this group in the near future, if only to show these people that the Administration is here to stay and to overcome their suspicions as to our aims etc.
4. The comments on the potential for future economic development in this area are noted.
5. good patrol.

Duplicate held.

(J.E. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR *RB*



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-8-19. ✓

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 67-3-11/2322

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK

29th December, 1960



The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
KONEDOBU

Amanab Patrol Report No.2 of 1960/61

Herewith please find enclosed two copies of the above-named patrol report conducted by Mr J.C. Corrigan, Patrol Officer, into the Amanab Census Division and parts of the Kwomtari and Border Divisions of the Amanab Area, also parts of the Vanimo Area.

Delay in the submission of this report is regretted. It was, however, delayed due partly to the transfer of Mr Corrigan from Amanab to Yangoru and also due to the on-forwarding of mail to the Assistant District Officer, Lumi, for his comments. I agree fully with the Assistant District Officer, Lumi, when he states that Mr Corrigan has displayed admirable caution in handling the alleged threats of the Petaineri Group, and this would appear to be wholly justified in the circumstances. I think that the fact that a large and very strong patrol has proceeded in this area will have an ultimate good effect on all people in these Divisions as it, no doubt, shows to the people concerned that the Administration is quite strong and have considerable resources available for such patrols.

Remarks re the possibility of economic development in the area have been noted and it is thought that this area may prove one of the best for development in the Sepik District, but this must come only after greater control is established over the area.

Mr Corrigan has written a good informative report and has carried out an effective patrol.

(R.A. WEBB)
A/District Officer

30-1/567

Sub-District Office,
LUMI, Sepik District

21st December, 1960.

District Officer,

NEWAK

Amanab Patrol Report No. 2-1960/61

Copy of the report on the above patrol conducted by Mr. J. Corrigan, P.O., before his transfer from Amanab to Yangoru has just been received from your office, and the ensuing comments are made in response to your telegram WK466.

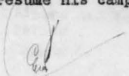
This patrol was carried out before the control of the Amanab area had been shifted to Lumi, and the protracted delay in submission of the report is to be deplored. It will be noted that it is just three months from the compilation of the patrol to the submission of the report. I understand this delay was at any rate partly the result of Mr. Corrigan's transfer. I refrain from further comment on this aspect.

The patrol would appear to have been effectively carried out. The caution Mr. Corrigan displayed in handling the alleged threats of the PETAINEI group seems to have been justified. Threats of this type are common among primitive people who have yet to acquire a full appreciation of the resources available to the Administration, and need not be viewed with particular concern outside their context. It was most satisfactory that a large and strong patrol was able to go throughout the area, and its effect was no doubt salutary.

Officers patrolling in this area and in the adjacent Border Division will need to exercise caution in handling the people for some years to come. They are the most primitive in the newly extended Lumi Sub-District, and it is going to be some time before they are under full administration control.

The area round Amanab does possess potential for economic development, although inadequate communications are going to hamper much in this line for a considerable time. I feel that Mr. Corrigan's idea of a road from Amanab to Green River and the Sepik, and then river transport for produce is unlikely to be a practical proposition - at least for a very long time. When station construction has been completed at Amanab, a start can be made on surveying roads to the local villages from Amanab. There is however no urgent demand for these, and the completion of the airstrip has absolute priority.

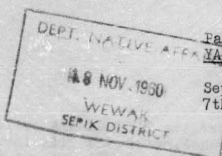
Mr. Corrigan has written a detailed and informative report on an effective patrol. I presume his camping allowance claim is being handled by you.


C.E.T. Terrell

Assistant District Officer

cc. O.I.C. Amanab.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



Patrol Post,
YANGORU,
Sepik District.
7th. November, 1960.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
W E W A K.

PATROL REPORT - AMANAB NO. 1 OF 1960/61

Officer Conducting: J.C. Corrigan patrol Officer Gr. I

Duration of Patrol: From 9/6/60 to 2/1/60
" 16/7/60 to 26/7/60
" 31/7/60 to 7/8/60

Duration: Forty three days.

Area patrolled: Amanab Census Division, parts of the Kwomtari and Eorder Divisions of the Amanab area.
Parts of the Vanimo Area.

Personnel Accompanying: Europeans; C.A. Trollope ADO Ambunti and Lieut. J.J. Farry Pacific Islands Regiment, from 16/7/60 to 26/7/60
Natives; Nine constables RPNGC from 16/7/60 to 26/7/60, also two Hospital Orderlies. From 9/6/60 to 2/7/60 by eight constables RPNGC and one H.O. From 31/7/60 to 7/8/60 six constables and one H.O.

Objects of Patrol: (1) Consolidation of influence, census revision and compilation.
(2) Investigation of Alleged threat of attack on patrol.
(3) Provide transport for combined Army/Native Affairs Patrol from Telefomin to Vanimo.

Map Reference: Aitape and Vanimo 4 milinch srtat series.

J.C. Corrigan.

Benjamin

DIARYThursday 9/6/60.

Departed Amanab 0924 arrived Whofneri 1000. Villagers lined, censused and medically inspected. Census completed by noon. Almost 100% increase in names. Village ground clean but houses leave a lot to be desired. The hamlets of Fainauneri and Whofneri have been censused together here as these two hamlets intend to combine and are occupied at present with building a joint village settlement 20 minutes walk to the south. This new site was visited during the afternoon. Talk given to villagers during late afternoon. Luluai Saiwei and tultul Inuei both satisfactory and are very pro-Administration. Friendly reception accorded patrol. No complaints.

Walking time : Amanab - Whofneri 33 mins.
Whofneri - new site Whofneri/Fainauneri
20 mins.

Friday 10/6/60.

Departed Whofneri 0945 travelled over average Amanab road until 1040 when NO.1 Yumoro reached. Small and flimsy rest house used by this patrol. Village not very big and shows obvious signs of being cleaned hurriedly. Villagers lined. Ifiaminag included with NO.1 Yumoro for census. Ifiaminag hamlet inspected during afternoon. Friendly reception, small amount of fresh food purchased, no complaints.

Walking time : Whofneri - NO.1 Yumoro 55 mins.
NO.1 Yumoro - Ifiaminag 27 mins.

Saturday 11/6/60.

Departed NO.1 Yumoro 0821 reaching following points - Wagan Ck. 0850, junction of Nuga and Wagan Cks. 0853, Apim Ck. 1007, NO.2 Yumoro 1117. Approximately 1½ hours out from NO.1 Yumoro road changes to what is a very good standard for Amanab. NO.2 Yumoro presents very clean external appearance, quite a few repatriated labourers present in this village. Initial census conducted 1500 57 names recorded; not likely there will be very many more. Some food purchased, best trade salt. No complaints. Camp set up in and around village.

Walking time : NO.1 Yumoro - NO.2 Yumoro 2hrs. 26 mins.

Sunday 12/6/60.

Departed NO.2 Yumoro 0833 arrived Akraminag 0910. Akraminag another neat village. Very good line with 77 names recorded. This village was combined with NO.1 Yumoro by Mr. Callcutt but three hours ~~separate~~ separate the two villages, so I have censused them separately, and have treated each census as an initial census. Ample food purchased. No complaints.

Walking time : NO.2 Yumoro - Akraminag 37 mins.

Monday 13/6/60

At Akraminag. Line given rest. Food purchased for carriers for I meal.

Tuesday 14/6/60

Departed Akraminag 0930, arrived Namabaneri 1122. Reached following points - Aipri Ck. 0938, road to Kwomtari 1000, Kumwari

3.

Following points - Aipiri Ck. 0938, road to Kwomtari IOO0, Kumwari hamlet IO05, Ubotki a Ck. IO20, Irau Ck. IO25. Good line 49 names recorded for initial census. Food sufficient for carriers for 1 meal. People friendly and confident, no complaints.

Walking time : Akraminag - Nambaneri 1 hr. 27 mins.

Wednesday 15/6/60.

Departed Nambaneri passing following points en route - road to NO.1 Yumor, 0939 Gar Ck. IO08, main track to Amanab II38, Nauwi Ck. II49. Arrived Oweniak II53. Camp setup. Villagers assembled, censused and medically inspected. Village appearance satisfactory. Ample food purchased for carriers. Friendly and open reception. No complaints.

Walking time : Nambaneri - Oweniak 2 hrs. 26 mins.

Thursday 16/6/60.

Departed Oweniak 0836, road to NO.2 Nai 0855, Iauf Ck. 0924, Signi Ck. IOIO, Junction of Signi and Pinop Cks. IO25, arrived new site Mouri IOI5. Mouri village is in process of establishing itself on a new site to the SW of the old one. At present the new site consists only of sago thatch shelters set in a large garden, though an obvious effort is being made to make the settlement into a more permanent one. Nine persons in hiding were rounded up from the bush by police. Line greatly decreased from 72 to 53. There seems to be a disproportionately large number of deaths in this village, and this is given as the reason for the change of settlement site. Friendly enough reception. Average amount of food bought.

Walking time : Oweniak - Mouri 2 hrs. 5 mins.

Friday 17/6/60.

Departed Mouri 0945 arrived NO.2 Nai 0920, passing Furei Ck. 0855. Villagers lined mid-day - good line with quite a few additions to the previous total. Villagers have erected a small rest house. Friendly reception. Food purchased for two meals. This village presents a neat appearance conforming to regular pattern of two lines of houses forming a village street. Sabi headman of this ~~village~~ village appears to be a strong character. No complaints.

Walking time : Mouri - NO.2 Nai 35 mins.

Saturday 18/6/60.

Departed NO.2 Nai ⁰⁹⁰⁰ M Ck. 0935, Masineri hamlet IO28. The group censused to-day consists of two hamlets - Masineri and Woramati. These two villages have combined to build a rest house at Masineri. Both have assembled here and it is probable that 80% of the combined total have had their names recorded. Ample food purchased. An enquiry was made into a dispute brought to my attention by Wamu natives during Amanab Patrol I-59/60, involving Masineri. Informed by Masineris that this dispute had been settled amicably between the two groups. Estimate Masineri to be approximately 2,000 ft. asl. An excellent panoramic view is had from Masineri of the Western Border Mts., the Torrecelli and Bewani Mts., the Yagroner Hills, and the Sepik Plains.

Walking time : NO.2 Nai - Masineri 1 hr. 28 mins.

Sunday 19/6/60.

Departed Masineri 0910, reached Wop Ck. IOI5, Mupmu Ck. IO28, Road to Amanab II00, Ifieg Village III2. Country traversed descends in height from 2,000 ft to 1,300 ft. a. s. l. Villagers lined during afternoon,

Very good attendance. Village clean and houses solidly constructed. Ample food bought. Villagers have built quite a solid rest house. Attitude of villagers very open and friendly. Walking time : Masineri - M Ifieg 1hr. 45 mins.
Monday 20/6/60.

Line given rest. Self and three police to summit of Mt. Ifieg, a prominent limestone outcrop approximately 2,000 ft. a.s.l. Thick cloud obscured view. A small stand of pines noted on summit. Returned to village during afternoon. Heard CNA case during late afternoon resulting in conviction and imprisonment of one native for assault. Prisoner sent Amanab under escort. Talk given to villagers during evening.

Tuesday 21st. June 1960.

Departed Ifieg 0921 arrived Aurump 0957. Supervised preparations for erection of camp. Departed Aurump 1045, crossedlauf Ck. 1055, arrived Amanab 1130. At Amanab re-provisioned patrol and investigated alleged assault at Amanab. Departed Amanab 1432, arrived Aurump 1547. Villagers lined during afternoon. Good attendance. This village is a new one being made up of a combination of surrounding hamlets. Ten new houses have been completed with a further six under construction. Road from Ifieg through to station passes over flat ground which could be made trafficable to motor vehicles fairly easily. Villagers friendly and co-operative. Whilst at Amanab informed by police there that they have received news (third hand) that Kwofinau Village has threatened to attack patrol if patrol goes to that village.

Walking time : Ifieg - Aurump 36 mins.
Aurump - Amanab 38 mins.

Wednesday 22/6/60.

Departed Aurump 0847, Wai'in Ck. 0916, road to Amanab 0923, Ai Ck. 0935, Ifiraminag Village 0943. Patrol route passes over dry flat country. Village comprises ten houses, all in fair condition. Village is neat with not much to remark on. Villagers lined. Census conducted with good attendance. A number of Naineri Group natives seen in camp. These were questioned in relation to the alleged threat of Kwofinau, as Kwofinau hamlet is one of the Naineri Group. Rifei of Afwo (Naineri) hamlet informed that he knew nothing of the threat by Kwofinau but Siau, a native of Kwofneri hamlet (also one of the Naineri group) who is wanted for the murder of Rai of Waineri, has claimed he will attack the patrol. Rifei emphasised that it was only Siau and no other Kwofneri native who made this threat. Rifei said that heard from several Kabaineri natives that the Petainersi Group, together with several neighbouring groups, were definitely hostile to the patrol and claimed that to go into this area was courting disaster.

Walking time : Aurump - Ifiraminag 56 mins.

Thursday 23/6/60.

Departed Ifiraminag 0845, Wuswawagi Ck. 0855, Siriaminag 0915. Village is very small - Villagers lined, only 32 names. Usual talk given. Departed Siriaminag 1015, crossedlauf Ck. 1055, arrived Bahanag (formerly called Seraminag) 1103. Village deserted apart from a few repatriated labourers and their wives. Villagers drifted in during course of afternoon, when at 1500 it was decided there were enough to revise the census. Siriaminag natives have followed patrol to Bahanag with food for sale. Ample food purchased from both Bahanag and Siriam-

Walking times : Ifiraminag - Siriaminag 30 mins.
 Siriaminag - Bahanag 45 mins.

Friday 24/6/60.

Departed Bahanag 0856 reached following points en route - road to Kwariman 0916, road to Kwofneri 0923 - arrived Waineri 0928. Most of the villagers assembled in the village although several reported to be absent. Village consists of two rows of houses forming a village street. Villagers censused during afternoon. 68 names recorded although I feel sure there are others as yet unrecorded. Conducted investigation into killing of male native Rai of Waineri. Fair amount of native food purchased. Village has several derelict houses but otherwise quite clean. Consider necessary to increase night guard to two from this point on.

Walking time : Bahanag - Waineri 32 mins.

Saturday 25/6/60.

Departed Waineri 0839 - road to Asui'e'i 0925 - arrived Kwofneri 0945 after slow travel through surrounding bush although under normal circumstances walking time would be much faster. Upon arrival at Kwofneri, the patrol was greeted by several of the 'big men' of the village. Word sent to Afwo and Asui'e'i, other hamlets of the Waineri Group to assemble at Kwofneri for census during afternoon. Reception ~~affix~~ by villagers friendly and their attitude is one of being anxious to prove their friendliness. Enquiries as to whereabouts of Siau (see diary entry for 22/6/60) reveal that he has made off into the bush together with his ~~xxx~~ three wives and two other Kwofneri natives. Approximately 150 natives present for census, although many more not recorded. Small pig and ample native food ~~xx~~ purchased.

Walking time : 1 hr. 6 mins.

Sunday 26/6/60.

At Kwofneri. Further investigation into alledged threat of attack on patrol. Several ~~Kabaineri~~ Kwofniau natives visited camp and asked whether patrol was going to visit them the following day. These native vigorously deny making any threat to attack patrol. Rifei of Afwo, questioned regarding this threat, revealed his ~~source~~ source of information as two Kabaineri natives who were informed by several Petaineri men. It would appear that there is a strong foundation to this threat and I have decided to postpone any visit to Kwofinau, Petaineri and Kabaineri until word received from OIC Green River who is at present in the Kwomtari area.

Monday 27/6/60.

Departed Kwofneri 0815 - Asui'e'i hamlet 13 houses 0832, road to Aheri, 0901, road to Kabaineri 1113 - Muwaineri 1200. Only one man present Muwaineri upon arrival. He was asked to sing out for the villagers who he said were making sago in the surrounding bush. A few natives began to drift in although not enough for a census. Village very crowded with 15 houses. Quite a large number (10) Kabaineri natives in during afternoon. These questioned regarding Petaineri threat and all adamant that Petaineri are hostile to the patrol. Most of the Kabaineri men wore clothes ~~xxx~~ and carried axes and knives of Dutch origin. Fair amount of food purchased. Camp set up in village. Fair amount of native food purchased. Friendly reception.

Walking time : Kwofneri - Muwaineri 3hrs 12m.

Tuesday 28/6/60.

Muwaineri natives censused 0900 - 1100. Patrol departed Muwaineri 1100. Road to Aheri 1125, Wespi Ck. 1129, Ahiameri Ck. 1225, Road to Aheri 1300, Einokneri 1912. Only small fraction of population present, 40 in all although 16 houses in village. Consts. Gumakande and Niring arrived with a note from OIC Green River. Friendly enough reception. Talk given during evening. These natives claim ignorance of the Retaineri threat.

Walking time 1hr. 39 mins.

Wednesday 29/6/60.

Einokneri natives lined 0800. Departed Einokneri 0950. 1030 bearing taken on Mt. Ifieg, 154 deg. Arrived Wogineri 1100. A large proportion of those present are first term repatriated labourers. Claimed by those present that no others absent. Census and usual talk given during afternoon; small amount of food purchased.

Walking time 1 hr. 10 mins.

Thursday 30/6/60.

Departed Wogineri 0918 Nas Ck. 1008 Yerib Ck. 1025, 1113 old village site Bipan, 1125 arrived Bipan. Most villagers present ~~xxxxxxx~~ at time of arrival. This village the most unkempt and untidy village seen on this patrol. Houses are of poor construction and the village central area is soggy and poorly drained. Villagers censused and medically inspected during afternoon. Usual talk given. These natives also claim ignorance of the Retaineri threat. Small amount of food purchased.

Walking time : Wogineri - Bipan 1 hr. 48 mins.

Friday 1/7/60.

Departed Bipan 0920 - 0935 took road to Ibagum. Nas Ck. 1025, Bumbu Ck. 1125, Saf Ck. 1200, Amwi Ck. 1230, Hwsop Ck. 1240, Finimp Ck 1250, road to No. 2 Yumoro 1338 - arrived Ibagum 1345. All villagers in attendance upon arrival, also Const. Basu with message from OIC Green River, informing me he will have to return to Green River immediately. Villagers lined during afternoon. Good attendance. Talk given. No complaint Camp set up in village.

Walking time : Bipan - Ibagum 3hrs. 27 mins.

Saturday 2/7/60.

Departed Ibagum 0912 Sopena Ck. 0940 arrived Aheri 1009 all Aheri natives present. Villagers lined, censused, medically inspected and address given. No complaints. Village area clean and houses satisfactory. Departed Aheri 1125 arrived Amanab station 1300. Patrol stood down.

Walking time : Ibagum - Aheri 57 mins.

Aheri - Amanab 1hr. 35 mins.

Sunday 3/7/60 to Wednesday 13/7/60.

At amanab.

Thursday 14/7/60.

Mr. C. A. Trollope, Assistant District Officer, Ambunti, together with Lieut. J. Parry arrived 1730 with combined Native Affairs / P.I.R. Patrol ex Green River.

Friday 15/7/60.

Discussion with Mr. Trollope concerning Petaineri threat. ~~THE~~ Preparations made for departure of patrol to-morrow for Petaineri area and Vanimo.

Saturday 16/7/60.

Departed Amanab 0930. Passed turnoff to Aheri Village then on to Waineri, passed through Waineri then through Kwofneri (deserted at this time) then to Kwofneri, arriving Kwofniau approx 1500. Approximately 50-60 natives present Kwofniau at time of arrival. Several Naineri Group natives questioned in relation to Petaineri threat. Camp set up outside of Kwofniau village. Fair amount of food purchased.

Walking time : Amanab - Kwofniau 4 hrs. 30 mins.

Sunday 17/7/60.

Departed Kwofniau 0730; to Kabaineri 0930 - 20 males present in village. Arrived Petaineri ~~1130~~ 1130; two Petaineri natives hiding in bush along track, these two were persuaded to accompany patrol through to Village; village deserted upon arrival. Shortly after arrival, Ungafai, dutch appointed Korano of Petaineri put in an appearance, had in his possession Dutch flag. Camp set up outside Petaineri; some villagers drifting in during course of afternoon. Korano and other natives questioned by Mr. Trollope, all emphatically deny making a threat towards patrol. Late in afternoon, self inspected Petaineri Village with armed escort. An address given to approximately 40 Petaineris concerning Administration intentions in their area and also the futility of hostility. General atmosphere of mistrust of patrol by Petaineris. Their attitude apprehensive - that of Ungafai when accused of being the originator of the ~~threat~~ threat somewhat sullen, but nevertheless he still maintains a vigorous denial. Later approximately 2000 patrol camp visited by several Petaineris and Korano of Bamburu Village. Short discussion held for 30 minutes. A party of Muwaineri and Einokneri natives arrived Petaineri (approx. 20) during late afternoon. Quiet night with no incidents.

Walking time : Kwofniau - ~~KABAINERI~~
Kabaineri 1hr. 49 Mins.
Kabaineri-Petaineri 1hr. 10 mins.

Monday 18/7/60.

Departed Petaineri 0730 passing through another Petaineri hamlet (the same size as first one; approx. 15 houses) en route arriving Iafa Village 0945. ~~1130~~ Approximately 50 natives present in village upon arrival. An address given to all by myself. These natives deny any implication in the Petaineri threat, claiming it concerns Petaineri only. Departed Iafa 0945. At this juncture those Petaineris accompanying patrol ran off into the bush. Walking times: Petaineri - 2nd Petaineri Village 16 mins; 2nd Petaineri - Uvvan Ck. 39 mins.; Uvvan Ck. - Iafa 57 mins; Iafa - abandoned Iafa hamlet 13 mins; Huguferenai (Iafa hamlet) - abandoned Iafa hamlet 27 mins; 1st Huguferenai - 2nd Huguferenai 10 mins.; 2nd Huguferenai - turnoff to Einokneri 22 mins.; turnoff to Einokneri - Wamaru Village 1hr. 17 mins. Quite a few Wamaru natives present on arrival in village. Camp set up. Some food purchased.

Total Walking time : Ist. Petaineri - Wamaru ~~XXXXXX~~
4hrs. 21 mins.

Tuesday 19/7/60.

Departed Wamaru 0820 after address given to Wamaru natives. These natives also deny implication in the Petaineri threat claiming once again that the threat emanated from Petaineri solely. Walking times - Wamaru - Nas Ck. 35 mins.; Nas Ck. - junction Nas and Ibu Cks. 30 mins.; river junction to Irimp Ck. 45 mins.; Irimp Ck - Bipan, 28 mins. Several Bipan natives in attendance. Guides obtained for road to Simog in Vanimo area. Camp set up in Bipan Village.

Walking time : Wamaru - Bipan 2 hrs. 58 mins.

Wednesday 20/7/60.

Depart ~~X~~ Bipan 0730, road quickly changes into flat lowland country. Walking times - Bipan - Mo ck. 27 mins.; Mo Ck. - Naraua Ck. 1 hr. 30 mins.; Naraua Ck - Bapi R. 2 hrs. 3 mins.; Bapi followed in Nw direction for 58 mins.; Bapi R. - Simog 1 hr. 22 mins. Arrived Simog 1545. Camp set up in Village,

Walking time : Bipan - Simog 6 hrs.

Thursday 21/7/60.

Departed Simog 0730, arrived old village site of Watipe after deviating to new one by mistake 1100. Departed Watipe 1200, arrived Kilifas hamlet 1630 - arrived main hamlet Kilifas 1830. Camped in Kilifas.

Walking times : Simog - Watipe 2 hrs.
Watipe - Kilifas 5 hrs.

Friday ~~XXXX/1/60~~ 22nd./7/60.

Departed Kilifas 0730 and followed the Sukara River to its source in the Bewani Mts. at the Kilifas Pass. After travelling over the pass, the patrol proceeded down the Buof River, through a series of gorges, to Sumumini Village which was reached 1445. Camped in Sumumini.

Walking time : Kilifas - Sumumini 5 hrs. 45 mins.

Saturday 23rd./7/60.

Departed Sumumini 0730 arrived Imbrinis 1200; reached Imbio ~~NO I 1545~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~. Camped in Imbio.

Walking time : Sumumini - NO I Imbio 6 hrs. 45 mins.

Sunday 24/7/60.

Biri River in flood just below Imbio. Remained Imbio.

Monday 25/7/60.

Departed Imbio 0730. Biri R. still in flood. Raft constructed

One successful raft crossing made with European party, but river flow deemed too swift at this point to attempt ferrying the Amanab carriers. Decided that Mr. Trollope and army party should move on to Vanimo and myself to await the current to abate, then transfer across the remainder of the patrol. By 1300 river down sufficient for remainder of patrol to be ferried across. Started out for Ningera on the beach 1330. Walked until 1930 when camp made in bush.

Walking time : approximately 6 hrs.

Tuesday 26/7/60.

Departed camp ~~0530~~ 0530 arrived beach and mouth of Pual River 0600. Across river by 0630. Self on to Ningera which was reached 0700. Carriers in by 0750. Departed Ningera 0930 arrived Vanimo Station 1230.

Walking time : 3 hrs. 30 mins.

Wednesday

~~Tuesday~~ 27/7/60 to Saturday 30/7/60.

At Vanimo.

Sunday 31/7/60.

Departed Vanimo 1200 and arrived Ningera after walk along beach. Slept Ningera.

Walking time : 2 hrs. 15 mins.

Monday 1/8/60.

Departed Ningera 0817 arrived Pual mouth 0845 crossed Biri River 1600 arrived Imbio No. 1 1630.

Walking time : 5 hrs. 5 mins.

Tuesday 2/8/60.

Departed Imbio 0817 arrived Imbrinis 1033. Departed Imbrinis 1126 arrived ~~XXXXXX~~ Sumumini 1551. Slept Sumumini.

Walking time : 5 hrs. 46 mins.

Wednesday 3/8/60.

Departed Sumumini 0830: after travelling along bed of Luf River, reached Kilifas 1523. Slept Kilifas.

Walking time : 5 hrs. 45 mins.

Thursday 4/8/60.

Departed Kilifas 0835 arrived Fugumui after following Sukara River until 0938. Departed Fugumui 0955 and followed Sukara river until 1705 when abandoned Itomi Rest House reached. Fish around rest house cleared away and camp made. Country passed through to-day typical of much of the Green River/Amanab lowlying country.

Walking times : Kilifas - Fugumui 1 hr. 3 mins.

Fugumui - Abandoned Itomi R.H. 5 hrs.
38 mins.

Friday 5/8/60.

Departed abandoned Itomi R.H.0820 arrived Piemi on west bank of the Sukara R.1000;passed through new site of Itomi Village 0925.Camp made Piemi;~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ attended to police constable who sustained accidental cut on foot severing vein.

Walking time : Itomi R.H. - New Itomi 1hr.5 mins.
New Itomi - Piemi 16 mins.

Saturday 6/8/60.

Departed Piemi 0855;Bia'a Ck. ¹⁰⁴⁵~~XXXX~~ Al'isi River 1134; arrived Yebdibi 1400 after passing through two large sago swamps. A number of Yebdibi natives present upon arrival.Camp set up in Yebdibi Village.

Walking time : Piemi - Yebdibi 4 hrs. 50 mins.

Sunday 7/8/60.

Departed Yebdibi 0825 reached Bapi R. 0900 Finip Ck. (Nas Ck.) 0926, Ia'iamung Ck.1020, Akraminag Village 1240, No.2 Yumoro 1325, Amanab Station 1800.Patrol stood down.

Walking time : Yebdibi - Akraminag 3 hrs.
Akraminag - No.2 Yumoro 38 mins.
No.2 Yumoro - Amanab 2 hrs.38 mins.

INTRODUCTION .

This patrol had as its primary objective, consolidation of Administration influence and census compilation and revision in the Amanab census Division of the area administered from Amanab Patrol Post.The patrol took place in two phases.During the first phase,from 9/6/60 to 2/7/60, the patrol was led by myself. During the latter phase,from the 16/7/60 to 30/7/60, the patrol was led by Mr.C.A.Trollope,Assistant District Officer, Ambunti.

The Amanab Division is made up of the foothills of the Border Mountains,none of which are above 1500 ft.in the eastern section,a relatively flat basin of land in the centre of the division,and two limestone barriers,one to the south running east-west and another to the west running north - south.The area is bounded to the north by the Bapi River.Several villages were visited in the Border Division,as were some in the Kwomtari Division.All of the area is heavily wooded and dissected by many narrow,swiftly flowing streams.

During the latter phase of the patrol,the patrol was led by Mr.Trollope,ADC Ambunti and an investigation was made into an alledged threat of an attack upon the patrol during the first phase,made by the Petaineri Group.After the investigation into this threat was completed, the patrol proceeded through to Vanimo on the coast via a pass in the Bewani Range,thus completing the final leg of the combined Army/Native Affairs patrol from May River to Telefomin, and Vanimo, via Green River and Amanab.Fine weather was experienced for most of the duration of the patrol.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.General

The general picture of Native Affairs in the Division is a varied one. Those villages east of Amanab are under strong government influence, whilst those in the western sector, although they cannot be described as uncontrolled, are ~~under~~ in the early stages of contact and influence.

The two factors bringing about this situation are patrols carried out in the area, at first into the eastern sector since 1953 and into the western sector from 1956, and the indirect influence of the indentured labour system which commenced around 1953.

The degree of control can be shown in the scarcity of disputes brought forward for arbitration. There have been perhaps half a dozen disputes brought to my notice during my stay at Amanab and of these, all but five were brought forward by the eastern villages.

This dearth of disputes can be attributed principally in the eastern sector to a lack of understanding as to just why the Administration has moved into their area: I feel by now these people have got over their initial feeling of mistrust of the Government but as yet they are ignorant of many of its functions. Of course this situation is undergoing continuous alteration ~~and~~ brought about directly by patrol and propagandising activities and the indirect influence of the indentured labour system.

The western villages, however, I consider to be in the first stages of influence, and the dearth of disputes in this area can be attributed to complete ignorance, mistrust and suspicion of Administration intentions. Reasons for this situation are that this was only the fourth Australian patrol to the area, and the indentured labour system is only now ~~beginning~~ beginning to have an effect, although there are a few repatriated labourers in some of these villages, who if for no other reason, will be of assistance in breaking down the language barrier.

At the time of censusing each village, a short talk was given the assembled villagers, stressing the Administration attitude to homicide, assaults, sorcery, adultery and similar offences. I also endeavoured to convince the people that the Administration meant them no harm but on the contrary was interested only in improving their present conditions, pointing out such benefits as improved health, better roads, improvements to their subsistence economy and personal security from violence.

Continued patrol activity is necessary within the Division to consolidate the present influence and this, together with the continued operation of the indentured labour system, should bring about complete control of the area within the near future.

Retaineri Incident

On the 21/6/60 during a one day diversion to Amanab to re-provision the patrol, I was informed by the police there that Kwofniau Village had threatened to attack the patrol if the patrol went into their area. On the following day, I moved onto Ifiraming Village and there interviewed a Naineri Group native, Rifei of Afwo hamlet. Kwofniau is also a Naineri hamlet. He said he knew nothing of the threat

by Kwofniau but said Siau, a native of Kwofneri, another Naineri hamlet and who is wanted for the murder of Rai of Waineri had claimed he will attack the patrol. Rifei also informed me the Petaineri group has threatened to wipe out the patrol, and to go into their area was to court disaster

Upon the arrival of the patrol in Kwofneri hamlet, the patrol was amicably greeted by the 'big men' whose attitude was one of being anxious to please and befriend us. Enquiries as to the whereabouts of Siau revealed he had heard of the patrol's approach and vanished into the bush with his three wives and two other Kwofneri men.

On Sunday 26/6/60 I again questioned Rifei in connection with the Petaineri threat and he gave further information as to the actual plan of attack. His source of information, he claims, are two men of Kabaineri, Tieso and Warai who were told by Unggafai of Petaineri. The alleged plan of attack was to lull us into a false sense of security when we reached Iafa Village. There we were to be made welcome, food was to be brought for sale but in the meantime runners were to be sent to Wamaaru, Petaineri and Pauru. These last mentioned groups were to conceal themselves in the bush around Iafa and when the camp was sleeping, surround the camp and wipe out the patrol. From the information given me I would put the population of the combined groups at between 800-1,000.

Regarding the Kwofniau threat, several Kwofniau men visited the patrol camp at Kwofneri and vigorously denied making any threat. The Kwofneris knew nothing of a Kwofniau threat and I feel the information given to the police at Amanab suffered somewhat by being given at least 4 th. hand and that the places meant the Petaineri and associated groups.

In view of the foregoing I decided to avoid Kabaineri and Petaineri village, and to travel along the eastern side of the limestone barrier which separates these two villages from the rest of the ~~xxxxx~~ Division. My intentions at this stage were to move along the fringe of the Petaineri area, gather any further information on the threat, and complete the patrol objectives in relation to the remainder of the villages as yet unvisited. At the time the OIC Greer River was in the ~~xxxxx~~ Kwomtari Division, and I sent word to him by police runner to combine forces and we would then visit Petaineri and associated groups.

On the 27/6/60 at Muwaineri Village I gained some information as to what was behind this threat. One reason offered was that our passage through the bush trampled the undergrowth, and trees were cut down, thus scaring away pigs and other wild animals from the tracks. Also the patrol 'smell', meaning any debris left by the patrol in the villages had the same effect in acting as a repellent in scaring away animal from the villages..

A further reason, and ~~xxxxx~~ the most important was that approximately four years ago, it was claimed, a patrol visited Petaineri from the Netherlands side. The Petaineris ~~xxxxx~~ were said to have been provoked by this patrol and a clash ensued with the Dutch Officer being severely wounded and his patrol put to flight. My informants for this were Rifei of Afwo and Asas of Muwaineri.

I am not entirely convinced this last reason is correct as several natives denied any knowledge of this incident, although it has been recorded in Green River Patrol Report No.2 of 1956/57 that a Dutch Patrol entered the Australian side in the vicinity of the Border, and that there was a clash but no other information is available. I might add the Dutch patrol, if ever it was undertaken, would have been before patrols by Messers Calcutt and Allwood in 1956 and 1957 respectively, which were to establish a rough position of the Border. At the time it

would not have been evident as to whether or not Petaineri or any of the Border ~~xxxx~~ Division villages would have been in Australian Territory.

A third reason may have been the confusion these people are in as to who controls them, the Netherlands or Australia. These people have been under a somewhat tenuous degree of control by the Dutch in past years and it is possible they resent the idea of being controlled by Amanab station which is quite close to them. They have an idea, expressed when I questioned them, that they will be compelled by force to work on the construction of Amanab airstrip as well as on roads. Under the previous Dutch influence, it would appear there were no calls on Petaineri to supply labour.

After carrying on with the patrol to Ibagum Village, I received a note from the OIC Green River saying he was compelled to return to Green River, so I ~~xxxx~~ decided to postpone any action concerning Petaineri or any of the Border Division villages until I had discussed the matter with the Assistant District Officer, Ambunti who was due Amanab within a fortnight. Upon his arrival Amanab, it was decided a diversion should be made with the combined Army/Native Affairs from Telefomin to investigate this threat.

During the final phase of the patrol, Kwofniau hamlet and the ~~groups~~ of Petaineri, Iafa and Wamaru were visited. In all cases innocence was claimed of making any threat against the patrol. During the visit to Wamaru, however it was admitted that Petaineri had made this threat and had definitely expressed hostility to the patrol. This admission of knowledge was made by the Wamaru natives.

In most of the villages the attitude was normal and what is usually found in such villages. The natives were friendly enough and not the slightest sign of ~~suspicion~~ resentment or sullenness were evident. However in Petaineri, the attitude was different. Here there was an attitude of mistrust and suspicion, and most of the natives were shifty. Unggafai the Dutch appointed headman was sullen and this was particularly so when he vigorously denied making any threat upon this patrol, nor an attack on any Dutch patrol, when accused of the same.

I am convinced there was a threat made by Petaineri, there was an intent to attack the patrol, and it was only the fact that the patrol was a particularly strong one which deterred them from putting this threat into effect. Future patrols into this area will be well advised to move with a sufficient police escort to ~~xxxx~~ deter any further signs of hostility.

Village Officials

In all the eastern villages, the 'big men' have taken it upon themselves to assume the duties of luluais and tulbuls. These 'big men' are in many ways the predominant members of each village community and take the initiative in organising sing-sings, gardening activities, sorcery, and play a large part in setting in motion the forces of self-regulation and political control within their communities.

This situation, no doubt has arisen through the effects of the indentured labour system through repatriated labourers seeing the system in operation in more advanced areas, and the normal actions of the people in appointing a spokesman to represent the people to the Administration.

I see no harm in this situation continuing as these will be the men who will be the obvious candidates when the time comes for formal appointments to these offices. I feel these men should carry on in these self-appointed roles, and when the ~~xxxxxx~~ present influence situation has consolidated into complete control, then formally confirm them in these offices.

At present, all that can be expected from these men is for them to be on hand upon the arrival of patrols in ~~xxxx~~ their villages, arrange for the sale of food to patrols, and direct the work on tracks in their village area. I explained to all these men the functions of luluais and tultuls, particularly the luluai's function of bringing wrongdoers to Amanab for court action rather than settling the matter in the village with possible recourse to violence. Before these men can achieve anything like the degree of control exercised by village officials in more advanced areas, they will need continued education in their tasks which can be given only with increased patrol activity in their areas.

In the Amanab Division, at Petaineri only, there is a Dutch appointed Korano, the equivalent of a luluai, but I feel in many of the ~~neighbouring~~ villages in the neighbouring Border Division, there are many more of these Koranos.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING .

Settlement groups are made up of two or more clans with each settlement owing allegiance to an aggregate group based on area, which could be composed of two or more hamlets. Individual houses are quite good in the eastern sector but not as good as those in the west which are of stronger construction. Hamlets are sited on hilltops and houses are arranged generally in a circle, around a central cleared space usually of hardened clay. Each house is made of two sections; an enclosed front room facing the central space, and a verandah projecting over the hill incline and usually commanding a good view of the surrounding bush.

All houses with the exception of Bipan Village, are raised above the ground, although the front room is enclosed down to ground level with sago leaf stems (punggal). Roofs are made of sago leaf thatch (morota), walls of punggal, and floors of black palm (limbom) and in some cases a network of sticks. An average house would be twenty feet by twelve.

Most villages were clean and tidy and presented an orderly appearance. The houses are good and compare more than favourably than with those in more advanced areas. Rest houses apart from three flimsy structures, and latrines are non-existent.

As well as the main central hamlet, there are smaller and less permanent houses built in the scattered gardens and in sago areas of the swamps. Quite a large amount of time is spent in such houses.

AGRICULTURE AND ~~XXX~~ LIVESTOCK .

The staple of the area is sago. Throughout the Division are scattered swamps and in this type of country, the sago trees are planted and cultivated. The predominant vegetation is that usually found in low to mid mountain forest. The soils vary from a dark loamy type with a good crumb structure, to a heavy reddish brown clay. There is ample ground for gardening.

As well as sago, yams taropmani, bananas, sugar cane and ~~abica~~ are cultivated, and although sago is the staple, these crops are cultivated

cultivated on a fairly extensive scale. Nuts and other wild fruits are collected from the bush as is the edible leafy green, 'tulip'.

Each village has a small number of pigs, but as can be expected, these are only held for ceremonial and prestige motives. Important protein contributions, however, are made to the peoples' diet by hunting wild pigs, wallabies, cassowaries, possums and birds, and the trapping of fish, snakes and lizards. Coconuts are present in all villages. On the whole, the diet of these people is satisfactory, and this is evident in the very small incidence of tinea within the area.

Regarding future economic potential, any moves to introduce economic cropping would be premature at present. However, for the future coffee would seem to be the most suitable crop. Peanuts and rice would be uneconomic because of the high cost of transport; a Norseman charter to Amanab would be in the vicinity of £140, and at present cocoa is not considered feasible even in areas such as Maprik and Yangoru.

Transport to future markets will be a major problem but perhaps this could be solved by construction of a road from Amanab to Green River, connecting with the present Sepik road and using river transport to the coast.

NEW ROADS AND BRIDGES .

Roads and bridges are non-existent in the area. Connecting each hamlet are narrow tracks, the majority of which are no more than two feet wide, but varying in places to ten feet. These tracks pass through very heavy forest cover and are strewn in many cases with tree roots. However most of the tracks have good drainage and good walk-ways was assured even during and after heavy rain.

The topography of the Division is broken in the eastern section but to the west the ground takes on more of an undulating nature until terminating abruptly before the western limestone barrier, which may prove a problem to future road construction but I think not insurmountable.

None of the creeks or rivers seen during the patrol will prove impossible to bridge as the banks are of solid ground and should support ~~fixxx~~ pilons quite well. Bridges at present, apart from a few felled logs across streams, do not exist. There are fairly extensive patches of sago swamps in the western area but these can be easily avoided.

Summing up then, there is a potential for a good road network in the area and there is an adequate population density to undertake such a work. If coffee is ever to be introduced into the Division, I feel a road network connecting up with the Sepik will be essential in order to obviate very high air transport costs.

AIRSTRIPS .

No airstrip sites within the Amanab Division, apart from Amanab station, were seen. The country, although not very mountainous is broken and does not lend itself to airstrip construction. However, there are several strip sites in the Kwomtari Division and in the flat country to the south of the Bewani Range. These sites have been fully investigated by earlier patrols and described in past patrol reports.

LAW AND JUSTICE .

There were no disputes nor complaints brought to the notice of the patrol. An investigation was made into the killing of Rai of Waineri hamlet and it would appear the assassin was Siau of Kwofneri. Attempts to apprehend Siau proved unsuccessful.

Throughout the area the traditional forms of self-regulation and political control are responsible for the maintenance of good order and arbitration within the society. Law and Order as western concepts are not widely known and understood, if at all. The remarks made in the section 'Native Affairs - General' apply here.

MISSIONS .

There is a mission station at Amanab run by the Christian Missions to Many Lands. Their staff consists of three Europeans. At present their activities are aimed mainly at winning the confidence and trust of the people in the eastern sector of the Division. The missionary in charge, Mr. Austin has made several trips to some of the more distant western villages but I have advised him not to go any further west of Muwaineri and Kaineri. Effects on traditional culture to date have been negligible.

CENSUS AND STATISTICS .

The known population of the Division has increased from approximately 750 to 1630, an increase of 229%. The entire Division was never patrolled completely before and consequently it is not possible to give a comparative analysis of past and present figures. Initial censuses were compiled in eleven villages but there still remain the Petaineri Group and Kabaineri hamlet. In the western sector villages, most of the initial census should be increased by at least 200% because the number of houses seen obviously indicates there are many more persons yet to be censused. The Petaineri Group is composed of two hamlets, each of approximately 15 houses and I would estimate the population at a minimum of 200. Kabaineri will probably be 60. By the time the area is fully under control I consider the known population will be increased by a further 1,000

Regarding recent ~~xxxxxxxx~~ claims made in the District Advisory Council concerning hardship caused in the Amanab Division, through over-recruitment, I found no evidence to support this claim. Oweniak and Ibagum villages are each recruited over the one third limit by two, whilst Bipan Village is exactly one third recruited. For the majority of the other villages, most are well under the limit, and the overall figure for the Division is 17% recruitment of able-bodied males. Nothing was said to me whilst on patrol by villagers concerning hardship caused through lack of able-bodied males.

The known number of villages within the division is now twenty five comprising Fainueneri/Wofneri, No. 1 Yumoro/Iffiaminag, No. 2 Yumoro, Akraminag, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Nambaneri, Oweniak, Mouri, No. 2 Nai, Masineri/Woramati, Ifieg, Aurump, Ifiraminag, Siriaminag, Bahanag, Waineri, (later it may be found necessary to break up Naineri into three separate villages viz. Afwo, Asui'e and Kwofneri) Muwaineri, Einokneri, Wogineri, Bipan, Ibagum, Aheri, Yifeigeri, Kabaineri and Petaineri.

APPENDIX 'A' PATROL REPORT XXX

AMANAB NO. I OF 195 1960/61

REPORT ON MEMBERS GREEN/RIVER/AMANAB DETACHMENT
R.P.N.G.C. ACCOMPANYING PATROL

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
BOIU	Const. 1st. Class	A good NCO xxxx who is very experienced in bush work. His com and is quite good. (This member on loan from Wewak Detachment.)
KALYO	Const. 5th. Y	A very industrious member who is very conscientious in carrying out his duties. Got on very well with carriers.
AUTAU	"	Another efficient constable who has'nt much to say but can be relied upon.
GUMAKANDE	Const. 4th. Y	Industrious and efficient.
IATYARING	"	Performed well comments same as for Gumakande.
SIAUK	Const. 3rd. Y	As well as being the x youngest member is also, next to Boiu and Autau, the most experienced bushman on the patrol. This member has had nothing but excelent references from past patrols and the same applies for this one.
WAITIP	"	Does what he is told but does not give the impression of being over-endowed with intelligence.
NIRING	"	A good constable who has done well in the past. However he has been in the Green/River Amanab area for five years and should be transferred. Performance on this patrol below par.
XXXX NARA	"	A new constable to this area, not particularly outstanding but did all that was asked of him.

J. C. Corrigan

J. C. Corrigan Commissioned Officer
Field Constabulary.

APPENDIX 'B' PATROL REPORT -
AMANAB NO.1 OF 1960/1961

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

The health of the people seen in the Amanab Division appeared to be satisfactory. At the time of census, each village population was lined and medically examined by a Hospital Orderly Gr. I, Kiapu, who also supervised the patrol's sanitary arrangements and who performed his duties capably and efficiently. Where necessary, dressings and penicillin injections were given by him. These people seem relatively free of tinea in comparison to people in more low-lying areas of the Amanab area, although there ~~was~~ were quite a large number of Tropical Ulcers in the western villages. Medical patrols have been through most of the villages of the Division and anti-yaws injections were given. However, only a fraction of the people were injected and there remain still many more persons yet to be injected.

J. C. Corrigan

J. C. Corrigan Patrol Officer Gr. I

APPENDIX 'C' - PATROL REPORT
AMANAB NO.1 OF 1960/1961.

EDUCATION

An elementary school has been operating at Amanab Station since June 1960, run by the Christian Missions to Many Lands. The missionaries report attendance has averaged 30-40 per day and has been constant. The school is a boarding school with the children returning to their villages for the weekend. Teaching is necessarily done in pidgin English as many of the children cannot speak this language. There are no other schools in the Division.

J.C. Corrigan

Patrol Officer, Gr. I



