

National Archives & Public Records Services  
of Papua New Guinea

# PATROL REPORTS

District : Western  
Station : Balimo  
Volume : 9  
ISBN NO : 9980-910-79 -8  
Accession NO : 496  
Period : 1963-1964

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

Digitized version made available by



**Copyright:** Government of Papua New Guinea. This digital version made under a license granted by the National Archives and Public Records Services of Papua New Guinea.

**Use:** This digital copy of the work is intended to support research, teaching, and private study.

**Constraints:** This work is protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) and the laws of Papua New Guinea. Use of this work beyond that allowed by "fair use" requires written permission of the National Archives of Papua New Guinea. Responsibility for obtaining permissions and any use and distribution of this work rests exclusively with the user and not the UC San Diego Library.

**Note on digitized version:** A microfiche copy of these reports is held at the University of California, San Diego (Mandeville Special Collections Library, MSS 0215). The digitized version presented here reflects the quality and contents of the microfiche. Problems which have been identified include misfiled reports, out-of-order pages, illegible text; these problems have been rectified whenever possible. The original reports are in the National Archives of Papua New Guinea (Accession no. 496).



ACC. NO: 496

VOL. NO: 9

1963 - 1964

NUMBERS OF REPORTS: 2

[illegible]



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. BALIMO - No. 2-62/64  
BALIMO NO. 1-62/63  
Patrol Conducted by R. J. BECKER  
Area Patrolled UPPER BAMU - LOWER BAMU - GAMA RIVER CENSUS SUB-DIVISIONS  
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL  
Native 3  
Duration—From 17/5/1963 to 26/5/1963 from 25/6/63 to 8/7/63 from 13/7 to 18/7  
Number of Days 29  
Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO  
Last Patrol to Area by—District Services See Overleaf  
Medical See overleaf  
Map Reference SEE REPORT  
Objects of Patrol CENSUS REVISION; COMPILATION OF COMMON ROLL; GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please

30/11/1963

*John Carey*  
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



67-3-9

January 21st, 1964.


The District Officer,  
Western District,  
BANU.

PATROL REPORT No. 2 - 1963/64 - BALINGU

Receipt of the abovementioned Patrol Report is acknowledged with thanks. The content of the Report is very well covered by your comment and that of the Assistant District Officer.

Mr. Becke has written a very useful Report, particularly as a basis for future detailed field work. I have no doubt that the establishment of the Banu Base Camp has created an interest amongst the people and I only hope we are in a position to continue to manage it for extended periods.

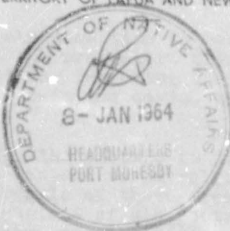
The detailed statistics are of considerable interest and will form a valuable record for comparison in the future.

  
(J. K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR

67. 3. 9



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



ATC:CJV

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67.3-1

District Office,  
DARU, N.D.

30th December, 1963.

The Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KOROROE.

BALIMO PATROL REPORT NO. 2 OF 1963-64

The attached report, submitted by Patrol Officer Becke, and the covering memorandum by Assistant District Officer, Balimo are forwarded, please.

2. It is interesting to receive an optimistic report of this area, which has for so long been considered a literal backwater. It reflects well of the officer concerned who obviously finds points previously overlooked. Undoubtedly, this is due to his being settled in the area rather than undertaking transient patrols through it.

3. Much of what Mr. Becke has written must be to a degree speculation, particularly in respect of economic agricultural crops exclusive of coconuts. Rubber is still under trial at Orioma and coffee is not, policy speaking, to be encouraged due to international agreements. The development of spices etc. might well be checked by D.A.S.F. A market already exists for copal gum. I will request Mr. Becke to forward samples through me, so that I can arrange for D.A.S.F. to make available funds for the purchase thereof. The major crop, sago, has a comparatively limited local market which can easily be saturated - this refers mainly to Daru. Further, the shipment of such staple to Moresby becomes uneconomic with the high freight component involved.

4. Transportation presents a major difficulty even within the District. I have little doubt that traders will be easily encouraged to purchase and move economic crops when such are produced. This to some extent, places the initiative into the hands of the local Bamu people. I have been reliably informed that one local trader, now established at Balimo, intends to extend his interest to Bamu, and he will receive every encouragement to do so. His transportation may also relieve the problem of movement of the bulk of copra which is the potential crop for immediate exploitation if the Bamu people are interested.

5. In the education field there is much to be said for the introduction of an Administration school in the area. Being "Government" this may tend to alter parental attitudes towards sending children to schools. Whether in fact the demand reported for Administration education is real, cannot be determined until such institution is established. I have discussed this at length with the District Inspector (Ed.) who has promised to do a survey of the lower Bamu with Mr. Becke during the early part of 1964, following completion of the elections. Though parents must be encouraged to see the advantage of education to their children,

.....2/.

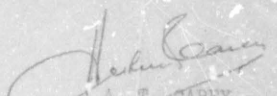
I suspect it will take some time to overcome the static and mindedness of those who need exert themselves little to survive, and care not for improving their general conditions. With Mr. Becke's attitude and advice this problem may be overcome.

6. Healthwise, the picture is dreary. The changed policy of Health in respect to patrolling will, I feel, continue to leave the people of these areas in the same situation as before. The extensions of aid posts envisaged is a good thing, but will require regular visits from European staff to ensure effectiveness. The report on health and relative figures have been passed to the D.M.O. with my request for a health coverage of the area to ascertain the primary causes of population decrease, and to plan to combat this.

7. Conclusion. The report gives a good picture of the present Bamu position, with however, a ray of hope generated by the interest and optimism of Becke. Further details in the technical field are necessary before things can get moving, but if the Bamus are interested they can certainly commence now. Administratively, any developments will bog down over internal communications (shipping), and I will endeavour to interest local traders in this aspect as soon as we can give them something on which to operate.

8. A good report, well presented, by a keen officer.

9. Extracts of the report have been sent to Departments concerned and camping allowance claims have been processed.

  
A. T. CAREY,  
DISTRICT OFFICER

67-3-1

Sub-District Office,  
BALIMO,  
Western District,

25th November, 1963.

The District Officer,  
Western District,  
DARU.

Balimo Patrol Report No.2 - 63/64.  
UPPER BAMU/LOWER BAMU/GAMA RIVER.

The attached report was completed in July but due to the absence of mail communications and Mr. Becke proceeding on patrol, the report was not received in its complete form until the end of October. Mr. Becke has since conducted a further patrol to the GAMA River Census Division and will be re-patrolling the whole area shortly after receipt of a recently distributed electoral education materials.

I have dealt with relevant matters under the headings used by Mr. Becke. He has no circular instructions at BAMU and there are none to spare at BALIMO. However his headings adequately cover the requirements of "The Formal Patrol Report" as set out in the Departmental Standing Instructions. A further request to head-quarters for a full set of Native Affairs Circular Instructions for BAMU will be made.

Observations:

Contrary to Mr. Becke's statement on the irregularity of patrols to the Bamu area (para 2), the records show that the following regular patrols have been carried out in recent years -

- No. 3 61/62 Lower Bamu - 7 days
- No. 5 61/62 Bamu Delta/Dibiri - 18 days
- No. 4 61/62 Upper and Lower Bamu/Gama - 36 days
- No. 1 62/63 Bamu - 7 days

With increased patrolling by the officer-in-charge BAMU Base Camp it should be possible to direct the latent keenness of the Bamu people previously reported, to improve their position. I agree with Mr. Becke that now the Base Camp is established an officer must not be withdrawn. The sooner the base camp is given recognised permanency of staff by being declared a Patrol Post, the better it will be for the area.

As mentioned in previous correspondence (refer my memo 14-2-3 of 18/10/63) the tax census sheets were in a confused state. Figures for the whole sub-district should be up to date, now all villages have been censused this year.

The KIWA Council villagers of MAIPANI and TIRERE (see para 1 of Report) speak the KIWA language but are also conversant with the BAMU language. I would suggest that in the event of the introduction of local government to the lower BAMU, the MAIPANI and TIRERE people may choose to be associated with it as they are a long way from the administrative centre of the Kiwa Council. They would certainly be an asset to such a council both from their local government experience and their economic potential. I recommend that these villages continue to be patrolled from BAMU until the question of their participation in the area administration of the Lower BAMU is decided.



Local Government will have to be introduced to the area in the near future and of course I must be closely associated with its establishment and operations. I cannot foresee my being able to devote any time to this task until after the elections, but in the meantime Mr. Becke can continue to collect data, economic social and political structure of the area as required by Chapter VII of the Departmental Standing Instructions.

It is noted that throughout the Report spelling of village names is different to that shown in the village Directory. I shall advise all staff to retain the official spelling.

#### Recruiting :

The only foundation for Mr. Becke's recommendation that the areas be closed to recruiting in the excessive absence of labour from the Lower Ramu. His submission holds no grounds for a closure to be instituted on either the RAMA or Upper RAMU areas. Your recommendation to withdraw the restrictions on recruitment (refer memo 62-1-1 (2) of 9/8/63) has been rightly acted upon and the reconsideration of recruitment of restrictions is unacceptable. There is generally a delay of several weeks between recruitment and the return of time expired employees and the situation that Mr. Becke has found in the Lower Ramu may well have rectified itself by his next visit. In addition the report does not indicate whether all the absentees are in fact recruited or whether they are casual employees over whom no control may be held.

The answer to the problem of absenteeism lies in

- (a) wives and children accompanying husband to place of employment as Mr. Becke suggests;
- (b) the development of the economy of the area to make it more attractive to males to remain in the village, whilst at the same time allowing them to earn some cash; or
- (c) effective sanctions, which will ensure workers returning to their families in the villages after reasonable periods, as you suggest in your 62-1-1 (2) of 9/8/63.

The officer-in-charge, Ramu should concentrate on the second alternative; perhaps a long range solution but it seems to me the only one available at present.

It is not a pretty picture that Mr. Becke portrays of neglected wives and children of absent workers and he should undertake when necessary, maintenance proceedings against the husbands. I shall advise him to do so and also to make enquiries through the welfare channels of our department on behalf of the wives, to bring the difficulties they experience when left alone in the village, to the attention of both husbands and their employers.

#### Village Movements and Integrations :

There is no objection to these movements of villages as long as the re-building is done on their own land. It is hoped more frequent patrolling and attention to village sites by the patrols will assist to stabilise the settlements.

#### Standard of Living and Health.

It is hoped that with the frequent patrolling from RAMU and increased medical services in the area, a change will be enforced in RAMU living conditions. Medical patrolling is particularly lacking and in a backward area such as this, the Department of Health should give far more attention to patrolling and health education than in the more advanced areas. Staff shortage is always a problem for the department, but cannot excuse the past neglect of the Upper Ramu and Gama census divisions.

*Effective  
sanctions  
not down to  
himself*

I do not wish simply criticise the Department of Health, which has had much to keep it fully employed along the border areas in recent months, but to draw to its attention, the situation pointed out by Mr. Becke and request staff provisions be made to attack the existing problems.

Mr. Becke's excellent submission under "Health" stresses the need for a medical investigation into the incidence of diseases and additional aid posts including one at Bamu under a senior orderly who can accompany Native Affairs patrol and make a start on health education. To gether with Native Affairs encouragement for improved village hygiene, the senior orderly could accomplish much in this field.

The Medical Assistant, Balimo, Mr. A. Wrigley has advised me of his intentions to shortly establish aid posts at SISIAME No. 2 and BUNIGI which will assist greatly. There is an unstaffed aid post building at SISIAME No. 2, the orderly having died at about one year ago. Mr. Wrigley prefers Bunigi to Pirupira as an Aid Post site as he says there is a stream there which given access to the GAMA River. I shall ask him to discuss the sites with Mr. Becke.

#### Economic Standing and Future Potential :

I feel Mr. Becke is over optimistic in stating "the economic potential is considerable" for the area patrolled. We know copra can be produced there and it is currently being encouraged by the Department of Agriculture. Coconuts are a reality in the area and by necessity must form the basis of the immediate cash economy. The potential for Rubber, coffee and so on that Mr. Becke believe to exist, is as yet unconfirmed by agricultural investigation and should not at this stage enter considerations for economic development.

Any practical assessment of an area's economy may only be based on an investigation of the present source of income, the actual monies earned from these sources and the extent to which these may be increased. I shall request Mr. Becke to compile basic information on the extent of coconut plantings, the income from crocodile skins any other source of income the people may possess. The report if shall be required to indicate how these avenues of cash income could be increased and / or supplemented by other economic activities.

One of the difficulties in the Bamu and Gama areas is the marketing facilities of any products. That of course involves the location of buyers and transportation of the product to them. Mr. Becke has correctly suggested the establishment of a marketing society (or as he terms it Buyers Society), the important function, to my mind, being the disposal of goods produced, rather than a requirement for the provision of consumer services in the area. The need for the organisation of production and its sale has been referred to in previous reports, but little has been achieved. With the increased frequency of coastal shipping this year. I do not think Mr. Becke, should have any difficulty in arranging pick-up points for out-going products. Nor would the problem of selling be very difficult as I know of two local vessels who will bring over copra produced in the Bamu.

The time is not opportune to consider the establishment of a formal society, it being most necessary to determine in the first instance whether the people are willing to work to support such an organisation. If they can prove they have the ability to co-operate amongst themselves and the energy to produce quality copra for sale, then the formation of a Society must be considered. At the present time lack of information on the people's desires on the matter, lack of finance and lack of staff precludes any serious consideration to the early growth of a formal Society here.

*This is a good idea. I think it is worth trying. A formal society will be of great help to the people.*

As there is a likelihood of a trader establishing a store at Bamu Base Camp, marketing and consumer needs in the Bamu will be partly met. However it is down in the Lower Bamu - the centre of population - where similar facilities should be provided, and the officer-in-charge, Bamu should concentrate in organising at least marketing functions there.

I have not discussed in any detail this phase of the work with Mr. Becke, but on doing so shall submit for your approval a suitable scheme worked out.

Braking :

It appears a number of C.S.B. books had gone astray during the process of that collection by previous patrols for entry of interest etc. to be made. A number of these have been located recently and are being returned to the sub-district for checking. Refer also memo 28-3-4 of 4/11/63 from O.I.C. Bamu.

Agriculture :

Mr. Becke has indicated a number of possibilities for crop production in the HAMU - GAMA areas, but he can do little until an investigation has been conducted by the Department of Agriculture Stock and Fisheries. He has certainly decided in his own mind that the HAMU area is not economically hopeless proposition. If he is to achieve anything in the important task of raising the HAMU out of its lethargic and neglected atmosphere, he must have confirmation of a formulated policy by the department of Agriculture. Copra undoubtedly is the main stem of economic development in the lower Bamu and this is at present being pressed, but what of the other areas.

I am fully aware of the lack of agricultural staff in the Western District, but is it not time to insist upon staff and start on possible projects which will give the Bamu people something to look forward to.

Forestry :

I agree with Mr. Becke that there is a timber potential worth investigation by the Department of Forests. The water-ways at the Balimo sub-district give easy access to suitable local ships for logging purposes. However only a full report by that department could determine whether economics of logging operations here, would be sufficiently favourable to attract timber interests.

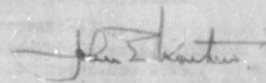
Conclusion :

Mr. Becke has submitted a concise report on present situation in his area and indicated that there is a potential for development which has not always been previously recognised. The alternative view expressed from time to time has been that the people might be re-settled elsewhere. We are not aware that the Bamu wish to move from their long possessed grounds, but we do not know that any such radical action would require a radical change in gardening habits, diet and so on and in any case it would be a tremendous task.

I think Mr. Becke's view of developing the people in their own area is both sane and practical. The Administration must now show more than a token control over the Bamu people and introduce realistic health, agricultural and educational facilities. We are certainly not going to make the Bamu into a wealthy, progressive area but I consider it is quite realistic to aim at raising their living standards and setting them on a part cash economy. Local Government is quite practical here as elsewhere, the only difficulties will be in ensuring concentrated guidance and assistance in all fields to make up for the past neglect and to overcome the attitudes resulting from this neglect.



Mr. Becke has written a most able and useful report as a basis for further detailed field work. This patrol was at times necessarily hurried in order to complete the compilation of the Common Roll, but he has reached to the essence of the area's problems. His future work will be to consolidate his current good relations with the people and dig out the detailed information required to formulate practical plans for development.

  
( J.E. Norton )  
Assistant District Officer.

PATROL REPORT

DISTRICT Western District  
Station No. 2-62/63.  
Beam 2-42/63

Report No.

Area Patrolled: Upper Bamu, Lower Bamu, and Gama River  
Census Sub-Divisions.

Patrol Accompanied by: European: Nil  
Native: Mr. Barua, A.P.O. (Gama River)  
Const. Kom 9990 ( " )  
Interpreter: Gones

Duration: Friday 17th May - Sunday 26th May  
From: Tuesday 25th June - Monday 8th July  
Saturday 13th July - Tuesday 16th July

No. of days----- 29  
Nights camping ----- 25

Last Patrol to Area: Upper Bamu ----- DNA 61/62  
Medical 53/59  
DASF Nil

Lower Bamu ----- DNA 61/62  
Medical 60/61  
DASF Nil

Gama River ----- DNA 62/63  
Medical 58/59  
DASF Nil

Objects of Patrol: Census Revision, Compilation of Common  
Roll, General Administration.

Map Reference: See Report

DIARY

Friday 17th May

Departed Bamu 0900 in double canoes. Arrived Mirua 1130-census and compilation of Common Roll. No complaints. Left Mirua 1700-arrived Segeri 2000. Slept

Saturday 18th May

Compilation of Common Roll and census revision for Segeri in morning. No complaints. Departed Segeri 1200-arrived Wakau 1300. Common Roll and census revision for Wakau complete by 1800. Slept

Sunday 19th May

Departed Wakau 0930 after talks. Arrived Aniada 1000. Village deserted despite previous notice of patrols arrival. Left Aniada 1005 arrived Bami 1100. Census and Common Roll for Bami. Two crocodile mailings sent to Balimo hospital. Departed Bami 1600-arrived Upati 1730. Slept.

Monday 20th May

Census and Common Roll for Upati completed by 1030. Talks until 1200. Upati people elect to build a new village on Buzigi Creek. Encouraged since previous site periodically inundated and in a very exposed position to South East winds. Departed Upati 1200 arrived Torobina 1245. Census and Common Roll completed for Torobina by 1830. No complaints. Slept Torobina. Village covered by three feet of water during night.

Tuesday 21st May

Departed Torobina 0930 after talks. Arrived Bunigi 1600 after rough crossing. Census and Common Roll completed by 1800. Talks. Slept Bunigi. Village site covered by four feet of water during night.

Wednesday 22nd May

Departed Bunigi 0800-arrived Darave 0900. Census and Common Roll for Darave. Talks. Large number of K/A away at work. No complaints-departed Darave 1200-arrived Sibara 1230. Census, Common Roll and Talks. Village now without drinking water. Departed Sibara 1600-arrived Pirupiru No. 1 1645. Slept. Village flooded during night.

Thursday 23rd May

Census and Common Roll for Pirupiru No. 1 in morning -30% of male adults away at work. In afternoon visited Pirupiru No. 2 for talks. Census and Common Roll will be done when Census sheets for this village are received from Balimo. Returned and slept Pirupiru No. 1. Once again village flooded during night.

Friday 24th May

Departed Pirupiru No. 1 in rough seas at 0800-arrived Orepai 1300. Census and Common Roll completed for Orepai completed by 1800. Talks after tea. No complaints. Slept Orepai.

Saturday 25th May

Left Orepai 0730 arrived Sisiam 1 0810. Census and Common Roll for Sisiam 1. Village heavily recruited. Departed Sisiam 1 1300-arrived Sisiam No. 2 1330. Census and Common Roll. Talks and then returned to Orepai to sleep

Sunday 26th May

Departed Orepai 0830-arrived Bamu Base camp 1500 after half hour stop over at Mission. Slept Bamu Base Camp



Tuesday 25th June

Departed Samu Base camp 0800 and arrived Bina 1 1630. Slept Bina 1.

Wednesday 26th June

Census and Common Roll for Bina 1. Village inspection and talks and then on to Bina 2. Arrived Bina 2 1300 census and Common Roll for Bina 2 completed 1700. Slept Bina 2.

Thursday 27th June

Village inspection and talks in morning-afternoon spent waiting for Jade. Impossible to cross over to Navio Island and Waris Village due to rough seas. Slept Bina 2.

Friday 28th June

Seas still rough unable to cross. Slept Bina 2.

Saturday 29th June

Seas still rough unable to cross. Slept Bina 2.

Sunday 30th June

Waited for incoming tide and then departed Bina 2 1600 and arrived Waris 1700. Slept Waris.

Monday 1st July

Census and Common Roll for Waris-talks and village inspection and then crossed over to Maipani. Commenced Common Roll for Maipani 1500 and completed half by dark. Slept Maipani.

Tuesday 2nd July

Completed remainder of Common Roll for Maipani and then departed for Tirere at 1230. Arrived Tirere 1330 and commenced Common Roll. Slept Tirere.

Wednesday 3rd July

Completed remainder of Common Roll by 1200. Talks and inspection of new Aid Post. Jade arrived 1230. Unable to leave due to low water. Slept Tirere.

Thursday 4th July

Departed Tirere 0900 with Mr Rarua accompanying. Arrived Nemeti 1600. Census and Common Roll for Nemeti. Slept Nemeti.

Friday 5th July

Departed Nemeti 0800-arrived Ukusi 1400. Census and Common Roll for Ukusi and Kopirami which is now one village. Slept Ukusi.

Saturday 6th July

Departed Ukusi 0900 - arrived Binori 1400. Census and Common Roll for Binori and then on to Airua. Census and Common Roll for Airua. Talks. Slept Airua.

Sunday 7th July

Departed Airua 0800-arrived Gimereme 0900. Census and Common Roll for Gimereme. Departed Gimereme 1100 and arrived Magiwe 1200. Census and Common Roll for Magiwe by 1400. Talks and village inspection and then departed at 1500 for Ibua. Arrived Ibua 1545 - talks, village inspection, Common Roll and Census completed for Ibua by 1700. Departed Ibua and arrived Givaretare 1730. Common Roll, census, talks and then left for Maisave. Arrived Maisave 1830. Slept Maisave.

Monday 8th July

Departed Maisave 0730 - arrived Pirupira 1100 Census, Common Roll, talks and village inspection completed 1400. Departed and arrived Aniada 1530. Census and common Roll. Aniada elected to amalgamate with Bami. Good move. Departed Aniada 1830 and arrived Samu Base Camp 2130.

Saturday 13th July

Departed Bamu Base Camp 0800 by outboard canoe and arrived Diwami 1830. Slept Diwami.

Sunday 14th July

Departed Diwami 0800 and arrived Sipoi 1230. A number of people in bush and at the cage stand on the Bamu - proceeded to Parime - arrived 1730. Slept Parime.

Monday 15th July

Census and Common Roll for Parime in morning. Talks and village inspection and then departed at 1300 for Sipoi. Arrived Sipoi 1700. Slept Sipoi.

Tuesday 16th July

Census and Common Roll for Sipoi. Half of Tiomi village has joined with Sipoi and the other half with Parime. Talks and village inspection and then departed at 1200 for Diwami. Arrived Diwami 1400 - census and Common Roll for Diwami. At 1700 after talks and village inspection the patrol departed Diwami and arrived Bamu Base Camp at 2200. Slept Bamu Base Camp.

Thursday 18th July

Departed Bamu Base Camp 0800 in outboard canoe and arrived Sebisa 1100. Census, Common Roll, village inspection and talks and then departed for Bamu Base Camp at 1500. Canoe capsized at 1700 - unable to start engine and paddled the remainder of the way to the station. Arrived Bamu Base Camp 1830. Slept Bamu Base Camp.

END OF DIARY

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this patrol to the Lower Bamu, Upper Bamu and Gama River Census Sub-Divisions was to census, to compile the Common Roll, and time permitting, to endeavour to produce a complete and up to date picture of these areas.

It is regretted that this patrol could not have been of a more lengthy duration but the time factor in regards to the Common Roll did not permit this. It is my intention to conduct a more thorough patrol into each of these areas before March next year.

Various suggestions and recommendations and reasons supporting same are contained in the body of this report, which, it is hoped, is both constructive and comprehensive.

#### OBSERVATIONS

The patrol was enthusiastically received in every village with the possible exception of the Kivai N.L.G.C. villages of Maipani and Tirere. These villages feel that seeing they are in the Kivai Council they should be patrolled from Daru. The patrol explained that their villages were being visited purely for compilation of Common Roll purposes. After a meeting in each of these villages the people consented to having their names placed on the Roll. At first they refused to co-operate because they were under a misapprehension that the Common Roll was associated in some way with the forming of a Bamu Native Local Government Council.

The establishment of the Bamu Base Camp has created a new born interest amongst the people as a whole. Previously patrols to these areas were at irregular intervals to say the least. Instructions were given by the Officers conducting these patrols and the people were told that the patrol would return in two or three months to give more advice etc. Imagine their feelings when the patrol returned not in two or three months but in three years or more. Confidence in the Administration must have suffered a set back under these circumstances. However it is believed that the establishment of the Bamu Base Camp has done a great deal in promoting the aims of the Administration in this area. The writer would go so far as to say that if Bamu Base Camp is ever closed down then any confidence which these people have towards the Administration would be immediately negated.

This apparent lack of confidence in Europeans cannot be entirely blamed upon the Administration. It is suspected that some members of the Australian Petroleum Company, and more recently crocodile shooters failed to conduct themselves in a reasonable manner.

Only Maipani and Tirere villages showed any interest towards the forthcoming elections. However this is understandable considering that these villages are a part of the Kivai N.L.G.C. and have had some experience with politics etc. Intensive instruction into the aims and functions of the House of Assembly will be necessary before the people commonly known as the "Bamu's" fully comprehend its significance.

The only complaint brought to the notice of the patrol was dealt with under section 71(a) of the N.R.O's.

This patrol did not census Maipani and Tirere villages since they were censused from Daru in April of this year and also because the Tax Census Sheets available to this patrol had not been brought up to date since 1959. The latter did not apply to Maipani and Tirere alone and was a hindrance throughout the patrol.



### Recruiting

The following figures are the percentages of male adults in the 16 - 45 age group whom are absent from the three areas visited, at places of employment.

<u>Census Sub-Division</u>	<u>Percentage Absent</u>
Upper Bamu & Wahoï	15 %
Gama River	21 %
Lower Bamu	37 %

The above figures indicate that the Upper Bamu - Wahoï and Gama River areas are at a comparatively safe level of recruitment while the Lower Bamu is over recruited.

The following figures show that recruitment figures have been calculated on a area basis with little thought to individual villages. Percentages of Males in the 16-45 Age Group, Absent at Places of Employment.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Percentage Absent</u>
Bunigi	39 %
Upati	42 %
Bamic	44 %
Sibara	50 %
Sisiame 2	50 %
Sogeri	53 %
Darave	62 %
Pirupiru 1	64 %
Sisiame 1	89 %

It is interesting to note that although the Upper Bamu has the lowest percentage of recruitment; it is suffering from a depopulation problem.

During the patrol numerous village leaders and wives of absent labour requested steps to be taken to have their villages closed to recruiting. Many wives complained that their husbands have been absent upward of five years. Promiscuity is prevalent throughout the area.

It is believed that the high mortality rates are associated with recruiting since wives are not properly maintained by the absent husbands relations while he is away. The worst housing and cases of malnutrition seen during the patrol belonged to wives and children of absent labour.

Unequivocally recruiting has contributed to the low birth rates throughout the area.

It is recommended that these three areas be closed to recruiting and steps be taken to return unemployed Bamu labour from Port Moresby and Daru. If this appears to be unnecessary it is requested that wives and children accompany husbands in any future recruiting.

#### Mission Influence

Mission influence on the whole is negligible.

#### Bamu River Mission.

If this Mission could provide an unlimited supply of food and tobacco their influence would be widespread, but at the moment this Mission has made little impression on the people. A possible exception is Iwa. This village is next to the Mission and is one of the best villages in the area. All the children go to school and to church on Sundays, although little response is obtained from the village elders.

Education and health services available at the Mission are of a high standard.

#### Seven Day Adventist

This Mission is limited to three native teachers conducting preparatory standard schools at Euaigi, Pirepiru I, and Piroro.

This Mission has made no impression whatsoever on the people and in many ways has retarded the development of the area.



#### Transport and Communications

Most inter village contact is made by canoe -outrigger canoes are favoured. These vary in size from the single man canoe to the large family canoe. At least once a month a canoe of the latter type leaves from one of the Lower Samu villages to sell sago in Daru. The return trip to Daru takes two months.

Very little land travel is undertaken. The most frequently used tracks are the Bebica - Divani, New-Turama River, Pariaso-Kala, Zeria-Samu River, Pirupiru 1 - Pirupiru 2, and Iowa - Saiwasi tracks.

#### Village Movements and Integrations.

Kukmai and Wareho villages are at present situated on the Turama River. The people from these two villages are nomadic in their habits and wander from the Samu to the Turama River as their seasons mature.

Tiomi has joined with Sipoi as a result of a epidemic.

Bebica has moved downstream from their old site as a result of an epidemic. Their new site is on a high ridge two hours upriver by outboard from Samu Base Camp.

Aniawai have abandoned their old site and moved to Basie on the mainland.

Upati have moved to a more favorable site on Bongi Creek.

Kepiremi and Ukaci villagers are currently building a new village downstream from their old site.

Airua and Binori have integrated and are currently building a new village adjacent to their old site.

The Turama River village of Mapoia asked the patrol permission to build a village near Maisave. The Maisave people had no objections and permission was granted. However recent reports indicate that the Mapoia people have decided to remain at their old site.

### Topography.

#### Upper Samu & Wabvoi

The land becomes increasingly undulating further upstream from Gogoro, rising to over a hundred feet at Parieme on the Wabvoi and Kowere on the Samu. The topography of this region is comprised of a series of low ridges running into the hinterland adjacent to the rivers. Most of this ridges terminate into sage swamps and then rise again on the opposite side of the swamp.

Where there are no ridges the area is generally flat and below high tide level; the banks are constantly receding and the soil has a high water content.

#### Lower Samu

This region is very low lying and subject to inundation at high tides. Not one piece of land was seen in this area which would not be subjected to inundation at high tides. The patrol experienced a number of unpleasant nights when villages were flooded in which the patrol was staying.

#### Gamu River

This region is a minor replica of the Lower Samu.

The Gamu River was reported to terminate into a large swamp.

### Geology

No stones, boulders or gravel is to be found anywhere in the area visited by the patrol.

The soil in the Upper Samu generally comprises 2-12 inches of deep black loam on a red clay sub soil with a heavy pale clay base.

The soil in the Lower Samu and Gamu has been built up over the years from deposits by their rivers and now comprises a heavy dark and comparatively plastic soil.

In many places silt deposits have formed making the rivers unusable for large crafts.

Heavy leaching due to the wet conditions has resulted in poor fertility in many places throughout the area.

### Climate

The average rainfall in the area is 120 inches PA, the majority of which is recorded between December and May.

Temperatures are fairly constant and range between the mid-seventies and low eighties, with nights being quite chilly.

### Topography.

#### Upper Ramu & Wahvoi

The land becomes increasingly undulating further upstream from Gogora, rising to over a hundred feet at Parieme on the Wahoio and Komevu on the Ramu. The topography of this region is comprised of a series of low ridges running into the hinterland adjacent to the river. Most of this ridges terminate into sago swamps and then rise again on the opposite side of the swamp.

Where there are no ridges the area is generally flat and below high tide level; the banks are constantly receding and the soil has a high water content.

#### Lower Ramu

This region is very low lying and subject to inundation at high tides. Not one piece of land was seen in this area which would not be subjected to inundation at high tides. The patrol experienced a number of unpleasant nights when villages were flooded in which the patrol was staying.

#### Gama River

This region is a minor replica of the Lower Ramu.

The Ramu River was reported to terminate into a large swamp.

### Geology

No stone, rock or sand is to be found anywhere in the area visited by the patrol.

The soil in the Upper Ramu generally comprises 2-12 inches of deep black loam on a red clay sub soil with a heavy pale clay base.

The soil in the Lower Ramu and Gama has been built up over the years from deposits by their rivers and now comprises a heavy dark and comparatively plastic soil.

In many places silt deposits have formed making the rivers hazardous for large crafts.

Heavy leaching due to the wet conditions has resulted in poor fertility in many places throughout the area.

### Climate

The average rainfall in the area is 140 inches PA, the majority of which is recorded between December and May.

Temperatures are fairly constant and range between the mid seventies and low eighties, with nights being quite chilly.



### STANDARD OF LIVING

The standard of living is low. Housing can only be described as shocking - a possible explanation for this is that the young men refuse to assist in house building, leaving the work to the married men and women. In a number of villages this situation is aggravated by the number of men away at work.

Sanitation receives little thought in the village. The most effective toilets are built on top of the high water mark. Others are just a shallow hole in the ground. The latter type is useless in this area because at high water it is flooded and excreta etc. is left lying around the village when the water drops. In addition pigs are allowed to run unchecked through the village. It can be assumed that these and other factors combined have encouraged flies to breed and spread a particularly virulent type of dysentery which accounts for many lives in this area each year.

In the Lower Bazu and Gama River, villages are regularly flooded each month at high tides. Depth of water covering the villages varies from two inches to five feet. This combined with strong winds from the sea, monotonous diet, mosquitoes and sandflies, and everlasting mud give rise to large numbers of men wishing to leave their villages and seek employment in more salubrious places. Hence the large number of men employed in the Central District, Milne Bay District and Kairaku Sub-District.

Cleanliness is completely foreign and frightening to the Bamu. A clean person is believed to be more acceptable to the evil spirits than a dirty person. Hence washing is frowned upon and considered dangerous to a person's well being. People in the Gama and Upper Wabwai frankly admit that they have never had a wash and never intend to for the reason outlined above.

Should these people have an adequate education readily available and a desire to improve their economic position; only then will there be a noticeable improvement in the standard of living.

### Economic Standing and Future Potential.

Contrary to many beliefs, economically these people have a reasonable future, although at present their economic position is lamentable.

Economic development has been left to stagnate in the Bamu. No serious effort has ever been made to promote economic growth in this area. These people with the possible exception of the Gama River do not make any artefacts; but with copra, copal gum, lawyer cane, timber, and no shortage of land, the economic potential is considerable. These established economic resources together with the potential for producing rubber, peanuts, coffee, pineapples, spices and any amount of raw sugar shows that the Bamu is not lacking in economic resources. In fact it compares favourably with the Kiwai Islands and more than favourably in the long

Don't forget  
with  
Bamu  
people  
and

run with the Balimo area.

However before these potential resources can be exploited account must be taken of the attitude of the people. They are ascetical in that they consider work abominable. They expect everything to be laid at their feet with a minimum amount of expenditure of effort on their part. An example of this attitude is best illustrated by pointing out that they quite seriously expect payment for allowing their children to attend school, and for their relations to attend hospital, and contribute very little to their upkeep whilst in attendance.

Their horizons are limited and consequently their wants are satisfied directly and with very little effort. If they want an axe, some tobacco, or a piece of cloth, they will work until they have enough money to make the required purchase and then go into retirement until they want something else.

It can be seen that if this area is to exploit its potential, constant supervision and guidance will be necessary.

It is suggested that a Buyer's Society Store be constructed at Bamu Base Camp to enable these people to have an outlet for their produce which it is hoped will be forthcoming in the near future and also as a means whereby they can purchase goods at a price favourable to them. Therefore this store would have retail and marketing functions and concentrate on a marginal profit with a quick turnover of retail goods. It is suggested that the store would initially operate on a share capital of ten shillings per member. Later the acquisition of a workboat with possible assistance from the Native Loans Board could be considered if the people showed a genuine and seemingly lasting willingness to rise out of their present lethargy and endeavour to raise their present standard of living. The workboat would run at regular intervals throughout the area collecting produce and disposing of it in Daru.

The patrol found no evidence of cargo cults associated with Society Stores as reported by a former patrol. It is submitted that these "cults" were simply an enthusiastic request for a store along the lines mentioned above, so that produce could be marketed locally, rather than a long canoe paddle to Daru (two months return trip) which is the means by which the Bamu people have sold copra and sago in the past.

#### Banking

Previously patrols have collected C.S.B. passbooks with the intention of interest payments. These passbooks have been held for up to three years for a mere interest payment and consequently they are now considered inoperative and steps should be taken to have them closed. This is ridiculous simply because the people have not been in possession of their passbooks and therefore consider themselves unable to deposit money for this reason.

Also the distance to a Savings Bank Agency has deterred continual operation of these accounts. It is submitted that once this area is economically stable and the people have some means of obtaining money locally, and banking it locally, then these accounts will become operational.

There must be  
a big  
store  
along the  
river  
for the  
people  
to  
bring  
their  
produce  
to  
sell  
it  
locally

# HEALTH

The following tables for the areas patrolled show that the populations of the Gama River and Lower Bama are increasing gradually, while the Upper Bama & Wabsei population is decreasing quite rapidly.

Upper Bama - Table of Births and Deaths. (Correct to second decimal place)

Village	Deaths	%	Births	%
Gogoro	15	13.27	2	1.73
Katakala	9	11.55	4	5.19
Pariceme	12	12.55	14	14.58
Iowa	18	10.91	15	9.99
Kuria	6	5.37	17	11.25
Garu	4	5.79	0	0
Sipoi	0	0	0	0
Diwame	8	13.13	2	3.33
Bebisa	20	28.57	2	2.85
	92	11.32	56	5.43

TOTAL POPULATION - 553

NATURAL DECREASE 97 ----- 6.39%

## GAMA RIVER

Village	Deaths	%	Births	%
Nemeti	0	0	2	3.92
Ukusi	2	4.00	2	4.40
Kopirami	0	0	4	7.01
Binori	2	5.71	0	0
Airwa	0	0	1	2.63
Giscreme	2	6.25	1	3.12
Magiwe	1	2.08	3	6.25
Gisaretore	1	1.68	2	3.33
Ibou	3	1.42	12	5.71
Maisave	2	2.46	3	3.52
	13	2.33	30	3.95

TOTAL POPULATION - 661

POPULATION INCREASING BY 1.59% P/A



LOWER BAMU

Village	Deaths	%	Births	%
Mirua	15	10.13	11	7.43
Sogeri	6	4.68	10	7.61
Wakau	7	7.14	3	3.06
Bamio	13	9.21	11	7.81
Upati	5	5.74	2	2.29
Torobina	2	0.87	13	5.65
Bunigi	1	6.66	8	4.44
Darave		1.31	3	3.94
Sibara	0	0	2	3.57
Pirupiru 1	0	0	2	4.08
Orepai	4	3.33	3	2.5
Sisiam 1	5	3.01	7	4.21
Sisiam 2	2	1.69	2	1.69
Bina 1	4	3.05	1	0.76
Bina 2	1	0.51	1	0.51
Wario	1	0.85	2	1.70
Pirupiru 2	3	2.09	6	4.10
Aniadei	1	2.12	1	4.25
	82	3.46	92	3.87

TOTAL POPULATION — 2321 (excluding Maipani & Tere)

POPULATION INCREASING BY 0.41%

Note

The rates for Lower Samu and Upper Samu may not be entirely correct since the Tax Census Sheets which the patrol used have not been maintained in the past. Consequently it is not known if these rates are annual, bi-annual etc. etc. However the figures shown accurately indicate the prevailing trend.

Gasa River rates are as shown.

The rates shown indicate that the decline of the Upper Bamu population is due to a low birth rate combined with a high mortality rate. The Lower Bamu and Gama River rates show that the population is slowly increasing; but a minor epidemic could upset the present precarious balance.

Apparently an epidemic swept through the upper reaches of the Bamu and Waiwoi eighteen months ago. As a result Tioma village found its numbers had dwindled to such an extent that it was unable to function properly and therefore joined Sipei village. It is also suspected that Kubeai, Wareho, Echisa and Divame villages went over to the Turama River to escape from this epidemic. The people attribute the deaths to sorcery.

From descriptions it appears that malaria, tuberculosis, influenza and pneumonia, and dysentery are the main diseases responsible for depopulation in the Upper Bamu. Secondary factors affecting mortality are insanitary housing and water supply; lack of sanitation and personal cleanliness; poor infant care; poor medical services and isolation from medical services.

It is suspected that venereal diseases in the past is partly responsible for the present low birth rate. Venereal diseases may still be prevalent, although no information in regards to this has been received. The patrol destroyed three dogs which appeared to be suffering from a venereal disease.

No doubt infant mortality and birth rates are higher than the tables indicate; but the numbers have not been recorded owing to the fact that the children die shortly after birth. This is substantiated at Iowa village where some people call their children "New Life Babies" as they realise but for the prenatal and clinic treatment given by the mission hospital many of them would have died.

Instructions were issued in every village to improve housing, sanitation and drainage and also to clear the bush within one hundred feet of each dwelling.

The Bamu River Mission staff is limited to an elderly couple who as a result are no longer able to visit villages for health purposes. However they are doing a wonderful job at the mission hospital and have treated over two thousand people in the past nine months--giving over eleven thousand treatments.

In the past nine months only one medical patrol has visited the area. This patrol visited the south bank of the Bamu and was mainly concerned with whooping cough vaccinations. In the light of this it can be seen that health services offered by the Administration in this area leave a lot to be desired.

There is little doubt that there is a health problem in this area. The following steps are suggested as means of overcoming this problem.

1. A patrol by a competent medical authority to determine the direct causes of depopulation in the Upper Bamu & Wahwei area.

2. A health education program.

3. Educational, social and economic advancement with consequent general improvement in health.

4. Improvement in the mortality in all age groups from control of the killing diseases, malaria, tuberculosis, pneumonia and dysentery, by improvement in medical services.

It is recommended that three medical orderlies be posted to the Bamu area; one to open an aid post at Pirupiru and to patrol the north bank Bamu and Gama-Turama rivers; another to open an aid post at Miroa and to patrol the Aramis, Dibiri, and north bank Fly villages; one senior medical orderly to be stationed at Bamu Base Camp to patrol the Upper Bamu, accompany D.N.A. patrols, attend to station personnel, and to co-ordinate the activities of the other medical orderlies at the Bamu mouth.



There is little doubt that there is a health problem in this area. The following steps are suggested as means of overcoming this problem.

1. A patrol by a competent medical authority to determine the direct causes of depopulation in the Upper Bamu & Wahwei area.

2. A health education program.

3. Educational, social and economic advancement with consequent general improvement in health.

4. Improvement in the mortality in all age groups from control of the killing diseases, malaria, tuberculosis, pneumonia and dysentery, by improvement in medical services.

It is recommended that three medical orderlies be posted to the Bamu area; one to open an aid post at Firupiru and to patrol the north bank Bamu and Gama-Turama rivers; another to open an aid post at Mirus and to patrol the Aramia, Dibiri, and north bank Fly villages; one senior medical orderly to be stationed at Bamu Base Camp to patrol the Upper Bamu, accompany D.N.A. patrols, attend to station personnel, and to co-ordinate the activities of the other medical orderlies at the Bamu mouth.



# EDUCATION

The following tables show the number of children attending school in this area.

## Upper Bamu

<u>Village</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Bebisa	BRM	10	
Gogoro	BRM	1	
Gogoro	Salimo	1	
Matakala	BRM	4	
Matakala	Salimo	1	
Wareho	BRM	1	Turama R. village
Iowa	BRM	54	
Ic...	Salimo	5	
Kuria	BRM	5	12 have recently left to assist their parents to make gardens.
TOTAL UPPER BAMU		82	

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE --175

## Lower Bamu

Maipani	BRM	11	Kiwai
Sisime	BRM	1	
Mirua	BRM	4	
Oropai	BRM	2	
Warlo	Salimo	2	
Torobina	BRM	18	12 were not allowed to return after term holidays because they were not paid.
TOTAL LOWER BAMU		38	

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE -----600

## Gama River

Maisave SDA Gulf District 1

TOTAL GAMA RIVER 1

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE -----140

In addition to the above figures of children attending school, there are the following attending preparatory Mission schools in the Lower Bamu.

		<u>Number</u>	
Maipani	BRM	52	Standard one
Torobina	L.M.	43	" "
Bunigi	SDA	22	Prep.
Pirupiru	SDA	25	Prep.
Tirero (Kiwai)	SDA	30	Prep.

As can be seen the Bamu area is a non literate one with only one hundred and eleven attending school at the Bamu River Mission and nine at Balimo. Out of the total number at present attending the Bamu River Mission, probably only ten per cent will continue their studies after reaching standard five.

Attendance figures will not improve until such time as an Administration school is established in the area.

Twenty four students have this year been forced by their parents to stop attending school, either because their parents needed assistance in maintaining gardens, or because the children did not return with gifts for their parents at the end of the term.

The Bamu River Mission have two very keen teachers at Maipani and Torobina and from reports both go to sage places to ensure that the children do not miss school when their parents take them to assist in making sage.

The main problems to be overcome if these people are to be educated are food, distance, and attitudes - both traditional and religious.

Children on the north bank of the Bamu will not attend school at either Torobina or the Bamu River Mission because they have received their preparatory training in (mainly religious) one of the Seven Day Adventist schools. Hence the north bank of the Bamu is a catchment of students seeking higher education after they have graduated from the preparatory levels. Students from Torobina and Maipani who wish to continue their education enroll at the Bamu River Mission where they remain until they reach standard five. Later if they are willing they are sent to Balimo for higher education. The S.D.A. schools at Bunigi, Torobina and Tirere seem to achieve little else other than creating confusion amongst the people since they have no outlet if the children wish to continue their studies.

The answer to this problem would appear to be an impartial Administration school. The other problems of food and distance would be negated if a school was established in the area. Traditional attitudes towards the children leaving school so that they can assist their parents would probably be forgone if they were able to return to the village of a weekend. When the children who have already reached standard six return and later show the advantages of higher education, these attitudes will be further mitigated.

Teapope and Saviamabu have established Administration schools and yet the population in these areas is not as great as the Bamu mouth and Gama River. Although the Bamu mouth could not be termed a tropical paradise it is however no less salubrious than these two places.

Village leaders have assured me that they would assist an Administration teacher in every way possible. If this assistance proved to be equal to the assistance given in establishing the Bamu Base Camp then the school would in all probability be an unparalleled success.

## AGRICULTURE

### Potential

As mentioned previously the agricultural potential of this area is considerable, especially in the Lower Bamu where coconuts are grown in commercial quantities. Upriver from Mirna coconut growing becomes marginal due to potassium deficiency in the soil.

In areas where coconut growing is marginal, spices, peanuts, and rubber should grow.

The potentiality of copal gum has never been fully investigated but it is believed to exist in commercial quantities.

A patrol by an Agriculture Officer to the area covered by this patrol would prove to be of enormous benefit to these people.

An established coffee plot was seen at Muria. Both the coffee trees and their shade trees appear to be healthy.

### Subsistence Crops

Once again advice by an Agriculture Officer would be of great value. Suggestions regarding gardening practices and improvement on the methods at present used would go a long way in settling these people and ultimately raise their standard of living.

Gardening practices follows the shifting agriculture pattern allowing the gardens after harvesting to become secondary growth.

### Fisheries

Fish abound in all the rivers and tributaries.

It is hoped that Bamu Base Camp will be issued a net so that the potentiality of these rivers can be fully determined.

Livestock In the main livestock is limited to pigs, poultry and dogs. All except the latter appear to be in good health.

### Pastoral

Nil

### Forestry

Timber would unequivocally be one of the Bamu area most prolific resources; second only to coconuts. If transport costs could be disregarded then the supply of timber could supply an almost inexhaustible supply of income to these people.

There are many types of exotic timbers found throughout the area.

---



## AGRICULTURE

### Potential

As mentioned previously the agricultural potential of this area is quite considerable, especially in the Lower Bamu where coconuts are growing in commercial quantities. Upriver from Mirua coconut growing becomes marginal due to potassium deficiency in the soil.

In areas where coconut growing is marginal, spices, peanuts, and rubber should grow.

The potentiality of copal gum has never been fully investigated but it is believed to exist in commercial quantities.

A patrol by an Agriculture Officer to the area covered by this patrol would prove to be of enormous benefit to these people.

An established coffee plot was seen at Mirua. Both the coffee trees and their shade trees appear to be healthy.

### Subsistence Crops

Once again a visit by an Agriculture Officer would be of great value. Suggestions regarding gardening practices and improvement on the methods at present used would go a long way in settling these people and ultimately raise their standard of living.

Gardening practices follow the shifting agriculture pattern allowing the gardens after harvesting to become secondary growth.

### Fisheries

Fish abound in all the rivers and tributaries.

It is hoped that Bamu Base Camp will be issued a net so that the potentiality of these rivers can be fully determined.

Livestock In the main livestock is limited to pigs, poultry and dogs. All except the latter appear to be in good health.

### Pastoral

Nil

### Forestry

Timber would unequivocally be one of the Bamu area most prolific resources; second only to coconuts. If transport costs could be disregarded then the supply of timber could supply an almost inexhaustible supply of income to these people.

There are many types of exotic timbers found throughout the area.



### CONCLUSION

It can be seen from the foregoing that the Bamu people have many attitudes detrimental to economic growth. The worst attitudes and beliefs must be overcome, or at least mitigated, before these people can reap the benefit of their natural resources.

Several points and suggestions have been made of which the main ones are:

1. That the Kivai N.L.G.C. villages of Tirere and Maipani should be patrolled exclusively from Daru.

2. That the Bamu Census Division be closed to recruiting so that: a) The birth rate will increase, and

b) The people will resort to local economic activity, beneficial not only to themselves, but also to their progeny.

3. That a Bamu Society Store be established.

4. The need for a patrol by the District Medical Officer to determine the causes of depopulation in the Upper Bamu.

5. The need for a health education course.

6. That an Administration school should be established in the Lower Bamu.

7. The need for an immediate agricultural patrol with a view to improvement in subsistence crops, and perhaps introduction of cash crops.

8. That a senior A.P.O. be posted to Bamu Base Camp and two other A.P.O's to the Lower Bamu.

There must be Administration assistance in this hitherto neglected area for any development to take place.



# VILLAGE CONSTABLES

## Upper Bamu

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Bebisa	Vaida	Has very little say.
Divani	Aiiba	Quite useless
Gogoro	Kenea	Tries hard but has little support
Garu	Tobobo	Fair only
Iowa	Eiema	A good worker
Kuria	Oke	Fair only
Matakaia	Daidu	Tries hard but has little support
Paricme	Saviei	Useless
Spoi	Bogoro	Recommended by patrol.

## LOWER BAMU

Aniadai	Eperi	Useless
Bamio	Babero	Useless
Bina 1	Megai	Has a little influence. Tries hard.
Bina 2	Mann	Quite good.
Bunigi	Bakere	Good.
Darave	Mabua	Tries hard but has little support.
Mirua	Bairi	Good.
Pirupira 1	Apai	Fair only.
Pirupira 2	Danu	Useless.
Sibara	Nadau	Fair only.
Sisiane 1	Gonea	Tries hard.
Sisiane 2	Paia	Good.
Sogeri	Giseri	Fair only.
Terobina	Kauku	Good.
Upati	Kori	Tries hard.
Wakau	Karo	Fair only.
Wario	Iebu	Has a lot of influence but very lazy.
Athpai	Aiku	Dismissed by patrol for hiding a number of sick people.
	Bogoro	Recommended by patrol.

## GAMA RIVER

Airua	Madia	Fair
Ewikai Gimereme	Ewikai	Tries hard.
Givaretore	Gawo	Fair.
Ibue	Penore	Good.
Ukusi	Ewikai	Tries but has little influence.
Magive	Okai	Quite fair.
Nemeit	Keware	A tryer
Bineri	Begude	Useless, but no better available.
Mainave	Naume	Good.



POLICE

CONST. LOM

No. 9890

Accompanied Gama patrol only.  
Very capable and reliable, conduct  
good.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN - BALIMO. S/D. Report No. BALIMO. 14/63-64

Patrol Conducted by JOHN P. KELLY, PATROL OFFICER.

Area Patrolled PART WEST GOGODALA CENSUS DIVISION.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NO.

Natives 2.

Duration—From 11/6/1964 to 13/6/1964 and 16/6/64 to 18/6/64.

Number of Days 6 days.

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO.

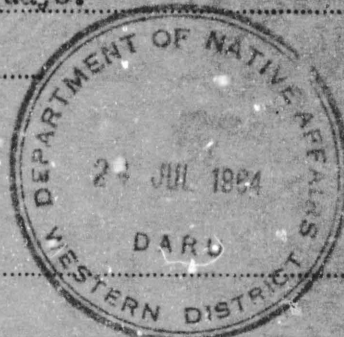
Last Patrol to Area by—District Services / 6/1963.

Medical / ?/19

Map Reference FOURMIL OF KIWA

Objects of Patrol (1) CENSUS REVISION

(11) ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.



Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

29/10/1964

*[Signature]*  
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

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

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





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN - BALIMO. S/D. Report No. BALIMO. 14/53-64

Patrol Conducted by JOHN P. KELLY, PATROL OFFICER.

Area Patrolled PART WEST GOGODALA CENSUS DIVISION.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NO.

Natives 2.

Duration—From 11/6/1964 to 13/6/1964 and 16/6/64 to 18/6/64.

Number of Days 6 days.

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 6/1963.

Medical ?/19.

Map Reference FOURMIL OF KIWAI

Objects of Patrol (1) CENSUS REVISION

(11) ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

29/10/1964

*James Williams*

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



67-2-7


23rd November, 1964

The District Commissioner,  
Western District,  
BAHIA

PATROL REPORT NO. 14-1963/64 - BALIMO

Receipt of the abovementioned report  
together with covering comment is acknowledged.

The content of the report is well  
covered in the comment of the Assistant District  
Officer. I have nothing further to add excepting  
that the patrol report is well presented and  
contains up to date information of the area.

  
(J.K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR



67. 3. 7. ~~67. 7. 27~~ (11)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams

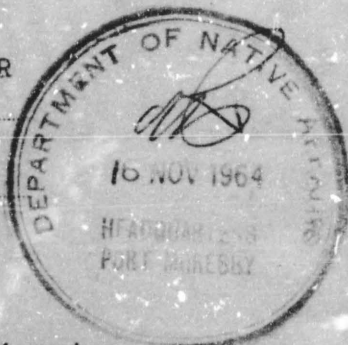
Telephone

Our Reference

If calling ask for

Mr.

IAH'CR



District Office,  
Western District,  
DARU.

October 30th, 1964.

The Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU.

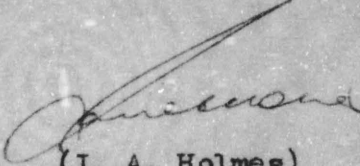
PATROL BALIMO 14-1963/64

PART WEST GOGODALA CENSUS DIVISION

... Attached is a Report of the above 6-day patrol by  
Mr. J.P. KELLY, Patrol Officer Gr. 1.

2. The Assistant District Officer's covering memo  
deals adequately with the Report which shows pronounced  
powers of observation and indicates useful work.

3. The patrol to the inland bush people preceded  
by early reconnaissance now that a helicopter approach is  
not possible, is still planned for earliest convenience.

  
(I. A. Holmes)  
DISTRICT OFFICER



67-3-1

Sub-District Office,  
Balimo, Western District.

22nd July, 1964.

The District Officer,  
Western District,  
Daru.

Patrol Report Balimo No. 14 - 63/64 West Gogodala (Part).

Attached is Patrol Officer J.F. Kelly's report of that section of the West Gogodala census division that Mr. McLellan, Patrol Officer had been unable to complete due to his transfer to Wean Patrol Post. The report should be read in conjunction with Mr. McLellan's report and memoranda arising from it.

The report whilst necessarily brief is well written and provides additional interesting information on the economy of the area and the inland bush people. Both these matters have been covered in the aforementioned memoranda.

Native Situation.

The area is now often visited on day patrols and the added contact brings familiarity between the villages and the Native Affairs Staff, with a resultant increasing appreciation of each other. The closer contact brought about by the advent of fast water transport has given the village people greater awareness of the work of both the Administration and the local government Council.

Migrations.

See memorandum 51-2-6 of 13th July, 1964. Mr. Kelly would be a most suitable officer to conduct a patrol to contact the inland bush people. His approach village people is sound and he can be relied upon to be steady in judgment and tactful.

The question of land for the immigrant people is one which will have to be looked into as arguments over occupation of Gogodala land could arise with an increasing number of immigrants settling along the Aramia River. It would be preferable for them to settle on their own ground if trades can be opened up which do not prove to be as far as is at present indicated.

Villages and Housing.

I have mentioned my concern to the Council over the movement of villages, as permanent social services such as Aid Posts and wells are now being introduced into the villages. In several cases the realisation that some permanency of a site will be required in future, has brought about the decision to move to a more suitable site, particularly when considering the need to have the village as close as possible to the well site selected.

Health and Hygiene.

I am not concerned with the depth of latrines as long as they reach the water table during the dry season. I agree with Mr. Kelly as well Mr. Wrigley, European Medical Assistant, that health education is vital at the village level. Two medical orderlies are now attending a six (6) weeks course at Moresby on this subject.



Wells.

The completion of the Council Well programme continues slowly. As one of the carpenters supervising this work for the Council has been gaoled for drinking Methylated Spirits, the Council will need to find another man to replace him. The wells (six) completed are particularly good and have been approved by the Department of Public Health.

Economic Development.

See my memorandum 25-1-2 of 14th July 1964.

The crocodile hunting season has commenced and almost One Thousand Pounds (£1000) has been paid in the last month to the Aramia villages. With the advent of the "dry" season the return will increase rapidly.

Requests for rubber seedlings are being constantly made but the Department of Agriculture's supply of high yielding clonal seedlings is limited. Its policy is to discourage the planting of the common type and I support the policy only so long as a supply of the clonal seedling can be maintained. At this stage the current plantings are only experimental and the current enthusiasm will have to be contained for six (6) months until some indication on their suitability is obtained.

Census.

Figures of both West Gogodala patrols are attached. It is noted that the Kenalia figures (last year 65) are not included as these are obtained during the Fly River patrol. A very high rate of births to death viz 24 : 53 indicates a healthy population but is a warning of the rapid population increase that is occurring.

Misriens.

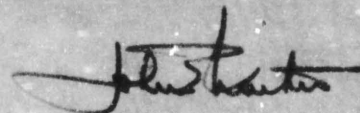
No comment.

Anthropology.

Mr. Kelly has an interest in this subject and he and other officers should be encouraged to collate information on a study of Gogodala society and its relationship to land control, rights and inheritance. There appears to be little done on this matter and with two (2) years in the Gogodala area he should have some authoritative information when he completes his term.

Conclusion.

This was Mr. Kelly's first patrol in this area and brief though it was, it is an indication that we may expect some interesting and practical submissions from his field work in future.



( J.E. Norton )  
Assistant District Officer.



(9)

BALIMO PATROL REPORT NO. 14/53-54.

OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL:

J.P. Kelly, P.O.

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING:

Constable Mataga  
Interpreter Gusani

AREA:

WEST GOGODALA CENSUS  
DIVISION.

DURATION:

11/5/54 to 13/5/54  
14/5/54 to 18/5/54  
6 days.

OBJECTS OF PATROL:

- (1) Census Revision
- (11) Routine administration.



(2)

BALIMO PATROL REPORT NO. 14/63-64.

Introduction.

The patrol visited the West Gogodala villages of DOGONA, ADIBA No. 1, ADIBA No. 2., IOU, IKE, KEWA and TAI, which Patrol Officer R. McLellan was unable to visit on his West Gogodala patrol due to his reporting to Weam Patrol Post.

The object of this patrol was to revise the census and carry out routine administration.

DIARY.

Thursday, 11th June, 1964.

Departed Balimo at 0830 hours by landrover for DOGONA arriving 0905 hours. Census revised, inspected village and talked with people. Inspected new village site and then departed DOGONA at 1515 by canoe for ADIBA. Arrived ADIBA 1545 hours. Surveyed and carried out land investigation for Council Aid-Post. Talked with people in evening. Slept night ADIBA rest-house.

Friday, 12th June, 1964.

0715 Commenced inspection of ADIBA No. 1 and ADIBA No. 2. Census revised at 0900 hours. Talked with people. Departed ADIBA 1300 hrs. and walked over good track to IOU. Revised census, inspected village and rubber. Talked with people in evening. Slept night IOU rest-house.

Saturday, 13th June, 1964.

Departed IOU 0745 hours for IKE. Walked 30 minutes over good track then by canoe for 45 minutes arriving IKE at 0905 hours. Inspected village and partly completed new village. Census revised and talked with people. Departed IKE at 1315 hours and returned to DOGONA via IOU and ADIBA, arriving DOGONA 1515 hours. Walked to BALIMO and arrived 1645 hours.

Sunday, 14th June, 1964.

Observed - BALIMO.

Monday, 15th June, 1964.

Queen's Birthday - BALIMO.

Tuesday, 16th June, 1964.

Departed station 0930 hours per speedboat for KEWA arriving 0955 hours. Inspected village, new village site and revised census; talked with people and carried out land investigation report on Council Aid-post land. Slept night KEWA rest-house.

Wednesday, 17th June, 1964.

0730 hours carried out survey on Council Aid-post site. Departed KEWA 0940 for TAI however, unable to reach TAI owing to amount of floating grass in channel and lagoon to TAI. Returned to BALIMO at 1215 hours. Departed BALIMO in heavy rain by Landrover 1330 hours for TAI. Walked last 1/2 hour to TAI because of condition of road, arriving 1420 hours. Inspected village and new village site. Talked with people. Visited by District Officer and Assistant District Officer. Slept TAI rest-house.

Thursday, 18th June, 1964.

Census revised. Talked with people. Inspected road work. Departed TAI 0950 hours and walked to BALIMO airstrip - 35 minutes - thence by Landrover to station. Patrol completed. Afternoon at office - general office duties.



NATIVE AFFAIRS:

Native Situation.

The patrol was well received in all villages and the people showed interest in what the patrol had to say. There has been no apparent change in the native situation since the last patrol to the area. The peoples' attitude towards the administration remains one of friendliness and outward agreement.

Although a number of small complaints, mainly involving absent villagers, were brought before the patrol, no complaints of any magnitude were brought to the patrol's notice.

Migrations.

Found living at KEWA Village was a group of "bush" people comprising of 33 DIBIASO and several KAMURA. The latter group has been well covered by Mr. McEldown in P/R 13/63-64. The DIBIASO people lived at a village called BARAPA on the right bank of the WAWIA (WAWOI) River opposite a group of people known to them as the KOLOMO. They were not nomadic and lived a similar subsistence life to the GOGODALA. They claim ownership to a large area of land stretching west of the WAWIA River and describe the topography and vegetation of their area as the same as that of the West Gogodala Census Division.

Their language is said to be spoken only by the DIBIASO from BARAPA. There is no similarity between the DIBIASO, GOGODALA or KAMURA languages as can be seen from the short word list below compiled at KEWA. All the DIBIASO and most of the KAMURA speak the GOGODALA language.

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>GOGODALA</u>	<u>KAMURA</u>	<u>DIBIASO</u>
house	genama	pea	goga
sago	bala	wa	bea
man	dalagi	aino	seu
woman	suseigi	doto	to'ei
pig	wai'i	nala	neila
dog	sekei	kasa	sapor
axe	ekane	mutupaya	kabi
crocodile	sibala	kasalapato	bade
water	wi	umu	dai'a
fire	ila	digi	bedate
tree	I	gu	bosa
village	Bai'ega	ole	nai'ia
canoe	gawa	kwa	kasu
spear	kibiri	kawa	bate
sea	waseiwa	opa	sior
sun	kodopa	kika	malei
I	nae	ale	na'nei
you	ac	na	gagae
they	ubo	amio	ini
think	iwaiei	golo	gogoleia
sit	mania	ipo	esa
run	guladei	popeto	deiurus
sleep	tenei	kolio	ati
fight	lapitadei	sali	manabua
walk	wei	u'u	anu
die	kao	dalabala	ibapei
sick	gi	kami	kapor
see	ti	fa	baba
inside	egorba	baku	mekor



Approximately 50 or 60 years ago a young DIBIASO boy, MELI, was captured by a KEWA raiding party taken back to KEWA and brought up as a Gogodala. Before his death about twenty years ago, MELI, invited the DIBIASO to come and stay at KEWA. As a result of his invitation, all the DIBIASO came to KEWA in the early war years and built a village just to the east of KEWA called TOKOMANA.

In 1946 the population of TOKOMANA was 100 DIBIASO. After that year the population of TOKOMANA quickly decreased as many of the people migrated again to SALEIGO (ULADU), NAKAPA, PIKINA and a few to KOTARI.

The 33 people that remained moved into KEWA Village and most of them were given small areas of land to which they now have full rights.

Those who were not given land appear to be quite happy farming on KEWA land, and the KEWA people say they have no complaints and are quite happy to have them there.

Although the DIBIASO return to their old village site on the WAWIA River (about four days walk from KEWA during dry season) once a year for hunting and crocodile shooting they say they have no desire to return there and live permanently.

To me, the DIBIASO people are now no more "bushy" than the Gogodala and their attitude towards the Administration is the same as that of the Gogodala due to their close ties with the Gogodala over the past 20 years.

#### Villages and Housing.

All villages visited were clean and tidy. The condition of housing at IKE, DOGONA, TAI and KEWA was generally poor, but at ADIBA No. 1 and ADIBA No. 2, the standard of housing was extremely good - all houses being well built, well ventilated and lined with black palm.

With the exception of IOU, all villages now have small family houses instead of a dubu or long-house. The dubu at IOU accommodates the whole village population. Whilst a dubu may be considered unhealthy for its inhabitants because of its poor ventilation and smoky interior, they are protection against mosquitoes which are very bad throughout the area.

IKE is well on the way to completing its new village and KEWA, TAI and DOGONA intend building new villages in the near future. The new village sites, which in all cases are close to the old village, were considered by the patrol to be quite satisfactory.

#### HEALTH & HYGIENE.

The general health of the people appears to be good.

There is a new Council Aid-post at ADIBA and another to be commenced this month at KEWA. The aid-post orderlies appear to be doing a reasonable job attending to sick and injured people visiting the aid-posts from neighbouring villages and attending to people in the village where the aid-post is situated.

Sanitation in the villages is poor. While there are sufficient deep-pit latrines in each village in use, they were found by the patrol to be poorly constructed and a menace to village health. Unless the village people are given better and more health education instruction regarding building, maintaining and using deep-pit latrines, I feel it would be more preferable to do away with them completely and defecate in the bush.



Wells.

The Gogodala Native Local Government Council proposed to have wells constructed at ADIBA, KEWA, DOGONA and TAI villages this financial year.

The construction of wells at TAI and DOGONA has been postponed until the people have moved to new village sites. At ADIBA the people asked the patrol to select a new well site as the one selected by E.M.A. Wrigley was only 30 feet from two pit latrines and on the site where a house for delivering babies once stood. Two days after the completion of the patrol, I accompanied E.M.A. Waites to ADIBA and a new site was selected which satisfied both the Health Department and the village people.

The well site at KEWA was found to be satisfactory.

Economic Development.

Despite the number of years these villages have been under government control, the people of the villages have no cash crops or primary industry.

The only avenue of cash income at present being exploited by these people is that of crocodile shooting during the dry season although a little cash income is derived through small pit-sawing contracts and through the sale of limited quantities of fresh foods at Balimo.

An economy based solely on crocodile skins is not a safe one and in addition it is evident that crocodiles are becoming fewer in the area. This fact is known by all and it has been stated on numerous occasions that something should be done to develop the area and a safe substitute be found to replace or supplement crocodile skins. To date, nothing concrete has been done. Not all the blame for this state of affairs should rest on the administration, as the Gogodala people's indifferent and lethargic attitude is a determining factor.

The patrol was approached by representatives from most of the villages requesting work on the Wasua or Balimo - Aramia River Road, as they claim they have insufficient money to pay their annual council tax. At the same time two good copra dryers built with the assistance of D.A.S.F. over a year ago at DOGONA and ADIBA have never been used and no copra has been produced in any of the villages visited for well over a year. The people considered that there is too much work involved for the cash return.

At IOU, ADIBA, DOGONA, and TAI a number of people showed a certain amount of interest in planting rubber. This interest in rubber has been sparked off by the preparation of a block for rubber at DOGONA and one at BALIMO. These two blocks were started off by a visiting Agricultural Officer as a pilot project for introducing rubber into the Gogodala area.

This interest should be kept alive and if rubber is successful, plantings should be encouraged without delay. If a good Agricultural Officer with a reasonable plan for development was posted to Balimo, I feel that we would be able to anticipate a far better economic situation than that which at present exists throughout the area. The people with more encouragement could possibly be pulled from their present unenthusiastic state, copra production could be resumed, and rubber and Robusta coffee could be planted.



While the sale of fresh foods at Balimo constitutes only a small source of income for the people, it is nevertheless an important source to many of the villagers, in view of the lack of other cash avenues. A number of villagers complained to the patrol that they have carried fresh foods to Balimo, but have had to take it back to their village, because the demands of the Government Departments and private enterprise had already been fulfilled by other villages selling fresh foods - a case of "the early bird catches the worm." To get a fairer distribution of cash from fresh foods among the various villages and to end the wasteful carriage of foods to Balimo when there is no market for them, I suggest that the Gogodala Local Government Council prepares a roster system whereby only one village supplies fresh foods to Balimo one week, another village the next week, and so on. The system is used in many other centres and if run properly, I see no reason why it should not succeed here.

#### Census.

The census was revised in all villages visited. The figures have been combined with those of Patrol Officer McLeellan's for the other villages of the census division.

#### Missions.

This topic has been well covered in previous reports on the area patrolled.

The Unevangelised Fields Mission at Balimo, still retains a strong influence over the people. Traditional dancing and carving are now practically a thing of the past, as the U.F.M. considers them to be an important part of totemic worship and hence not acceptable to Christians.

As the Mission teaches that a man should have only one wife, I was surprised at the relatively large number of polygynous marriages when revising the census.

#### Anthropology.

A large number of cases of giving away infants and swapping infants was noted by the patrol. Cases of giving away infants occur when a man and his wife have three or more children and the man's brother or his wife's brother have one or no children. Swapping of children occurs where a man has siblings of the same sex and one of his biological kin has siblings of the other sex.

The giving away and swapping of infants appears to help facilitate sister-brother exchange, in relation to marriage, which is practiced throughout the Gogodala area.

#### CONCLUSION:

The people's attitude towards the Administration appears to be quite satisfactory.

If it is intended to further advance, the people, steps must be taken soon to develop the area economically.

J. Kelly  
J.P. Kelly.  
Patrol Officer.