

National Archives & Public Records Services
of Papua New Guinea

PATROL REPORTS

District : Western
Station : Krunga
Volume : 15
ISBN NO : 9980-910-83-6
Accession NO : 496
Period : 1966-1967

Filmed 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).

257-6/68

PATROL REPORTS WESTERN DISTRICT 1966-67

KILUNGA

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
1-66-67	Peter J. Parnwell	Kiunga Local Government Council area
2-66-67	J.C. EDGAR	NORTH & EAST AWIN C.D.
4-66-67	J.S. Edgar	Moian & South Ok-Tedi Census Div.
5-66-67	J.C. Edgar	South & East Awin Census Div.

NINGERUM

3-66-67	R.C. Hunter	West Awin Census Div.
4-66-67	R.C. Hunter	North Awin Census Div.

LAKE MURRAY

1-66-67	W.H. Dec. Dutton	Lake Murray & Middle Fly C.D. (Proposed Lake Murray Local Government Council Area)
--------------------	-----------------------------	---

ORIGINAL 16



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of Western Report No. 1 of 1966/67

Patrol Conducted by Peter J. Parnwell Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled KIUNGA Local Government Council Area

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives 1 L.G. Assistant, 3 R.P.N.G.C., 2 Interpreters

Duration—From 24/8/1966 to 12/10/1966

Number of Days 21

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 12/1965

Medical ? / 19

Map Reference Enclosed

Objects of Patrol Initial Council Tax Collection
Routine Administration



Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

8/2/1967

F. A. Parnwell
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
.....
.....



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams.....
Our Reference..... 67-5-1.
If calling ask for JAE:KIMCK.
Mr.....

Department of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.

8th February, 1967.

The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KOROROBU.

PATROL REPORT KIUNGA 1/66-67.

MR. P.J. PARNWELL - PATROL OFFICER.

The above numbered report together with covering comments from Acting Assistant District Commissioner, Kiunga, is submitted hereunder.

2. Tax collections commenced on 24th August, 1966, and were completed in late October. Outboard motor breakdowns and low river heights occasionally upset patrol plans but length of time taken ensured that all villagers were made aware of impending collection of tax.

3. A one hundred percent collection from eligible male taxpayers resident in the area is an excellent first year record and speaks highly for Mr. Parnwell's ability as Council's Administrative adviser.

4. The latest Agricultural Monthly Report from Kiunga states that the nursery is holding 54,600 seedlings which will cover 298 acres. At the moment the area cleared for planting, 86 acres, will only cater for 17,400 seedlings. The Regional Agricultural Officer called for an estimate of rubber seeds required for the years 1966 to 1970 and the District Agricultural Officer in his 1-6-6 of 29.3.66 quoted the following requirements:

August seed fall 1966	50,000
1967 plantings	150,000
1968 plantings	200,000
1969 plantings	200,000
1970 plantings	X ,000

The Administration is more than keeping pace with the enthusiasm and zeal of the local Kiunga people, but it is necessary that the Department of Agriculture, Stock, and Fisheries, provide additional and competent staff as rubber extension work dictates.

5. The very favourable large scale response to the introduction of rubber, this response coming from a group of people formerly renowned for their apathy and minimal assistance to Administration efforts, is not a matter of surprise but a fact. The malady affecting most groups with a similar record of apathy is largely caused by a lack of positive Administration activity, not in the nebulous field of politics but in the practical field of economics.

6. Other comments by Acting Assistant District Commissioner, Kiunga, are quite adequate.

7. Mr. Parnwell, a slow but conscientious worker, assisted the Council well up to the time of his resignation. I endorse the comment that both the Council and Administration could ill afford to lose him by his resignation.

F. A. Bensted
(F. A. Bensted, Jr.)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

67-3-14 (17)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams.....
Our Reference..... 67-5-1
If calling ask for
Mr..... R&C.MEP



Department of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.
7th April, 1967.

~~The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub District Office,
KIUNGA.~~

(16)

KIUNGA Patrol 1/66-67

Please find herewith copy of the Director's memo 67-5-14 of 3rd April, 1967.

2. Please take note of the Director's Instructions in paras. 2-5 and see that extracts are included in all future patrol instructions.

J.A. Bensted
(J.A. Bensted)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

S.C.
The Director,
Dept. of District Administration,
KONEDOBUI.

R 20/4

16

67-3-14



3rd April, 1967.

District Commissioner,
Western District,
D A R U.

KIUNGA PATROL NO. 1 OF 1966/67:


Your 67-5-1 of the 8th February, 1967, re/ers.

2. I agree entirely with your remarks in paragraph five, although I doubt that politics at this time remains in the "Nebulous" category. However, once a suitable crop for an area has been found and has Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries' support we must make every effort to promote it. This means regular patrolling.

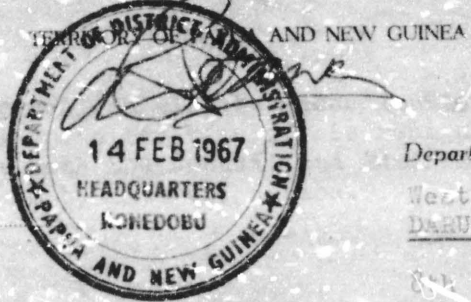
3. The Council should also involve itself in economic development either by financing such or, if this is not possible due to low income, by actively supporting it by encouraging the people to clear land and plant rubber and by passing rules to promote and protect it.

4. The reported growing awareness amongst these people must be developed. Regular patrolling stressing Council ideals, aims and functions is vital; clear and patient explanation essential. If it is possible to collect tax in 21 days (broken periods) it is certainly possible to patrol the area more frequently.

5. I would suggest that future tax collections be done in July so that the Council may proceed with its works programme as soon as possible each financial year.


(J. K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR

67. 3.14¹⁵



Telegrams.....
Our Reference..... 67-5-1.
If calling ask for..... JAE:KIMCK.
Mr.....

Department of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.

8th February, 1967.

The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEBOBU.

PATROL REPORT KIUNGA 1/66-67.

MR. P.J. PARNWELL - PATROL OFFICER.

The above numbered report together with covering comments from Acting Assistant District Commissioner, Kiunga, is submitted hereunder.

2. Tax collections commenced on 24th August, 1966, and were completed in late October. Cutboard motor breakdowns and low river lights occasionally upset patrol plans but length of time taken ensured that all villagers were made aware of impending collection of tax.

3. A one hundred percent collection from eligible male taxpayers resident in the area is an excellent first year record and speaks highly for Mr. Parnwell's ability as Council's Administrative adviser.

4. The latest Agricultural Monthly Report from Kiunga states that the nursery is holding 54,600 seedlings which will cover 298 acres. At the moment the area cleared for planting, 86 acres, will only cater for 17,400 seedlings. The Regional Agricultural Officer called for an estimate of rubber seeds required for the years 1966 to 1970 and the District Agricultural Officer in his 1-6-66 29.3.66 quoted the following requirements:

August seed fall 1966	50,000
1967 plantings	150,000
1968 plantings	200,000
1969 plantings	200,000
1970 plantings	X ,000

The Administration is more than keeping pace with the enthusiasm and zeal of the local Kiunga people, but it is necessary that the Department of Agriculture, Stock, and Fisheries, provide additional and competent staff as rubber extension work dictates.

5/10/67

5. The very favourable large scale response to the introduction of rubber, this response coming from a group of people formerly renowned for their apathy and minimal assistance to Administration efforts, is not a matter of surprise but of fact. The malady affecting most groups with a similar record of apathy is largely caused by a lack of positive Administration activity, not in the nebulous field of politics but in the practical field of economics.

6. Other comments by Acting Assistant District Commissioner, Kiunga, are quite adequate.

14

Mr. Parnwell, a slow but conscientious worker, assisted the Council well up to the time of his resignation. I endorse the comment that both the Council and Administration could ill afford to lose him by his resignation.

F.A. Bensted
F.A. Bensted
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams

Our Reference..... 67-5-1.....

If calling ask for

Mr.....

Department of District Administration,

Sub-District Office,

Western District,

KIUNGA.

27th. January, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
Department of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.

KIUNGA PATROL REPORT 1 of 1966-67.

INITIAL TAX COLLECTION FOR KIUNGA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

The delay in commenting upon this patrol report is due to an absence of O.I.C's.

2. Consequently much of the matter will be dealt with in accompanying memorandums covering the Election Patrol currently in progress.

3. Points to be noted are;

(a) TAX COLLECTION

Mr. Parnwell's comments are self explanatory.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

From observations on the current election patrol very few people have any working knowledge of what the Council is actually for. Many of the points discussed at the Council meetings are beyond the comprehension of many of the Councillors.

I agree with Mr. Parnwell in that more adult education traing would be of benefit. However, such a course should be Council activity orientated and should include the elected Councillors and any members of the Community who are known to play an active part in Council activities at the village level. Women should not attend and it would be a course primarily devoted to Council education rather than general welfare-community education.

(c) VILLAGES

This section will be dealt with in considerable detail in a memorandum concerning rubber and land accompanying the Election Patrol Report..

It is clear that rubber is the prime reason for the amalgamation and re-siting of villages.

Land ownership problems are going to be considerable in the future unless some form of land ownership rights are established.

(d) TRANSPORT.

Mr. Parnwell's Patrol Diary indicates the absolute dependence upon river transport.

Whilst the Administration uses the M.V. "JALE" and outboards

for its own use the Council cannot be bolstered indefinitely by the Administration and will ultimately need some form of river transport. This will be particularly so when the KIUNGA BUYERS' Society starts actively in the collection and processing of rubber. Perhaps a joint venture could be arranged between K.B.S and the Council.

(e) AGRICULTURE

As noted by Mr. Parnwell the rubber side of agriculture is impressive and looks promising. There do appear to be two problems, however, that will need to be rectified.

The first is that the availability of rubber stumps for distribution is very much short of the anticipated or actual demand. This was seen at the inception of the scheme and seems to be unavoidable due to the shortage of imported Malayan seed. The situation is therefore that the people are responding excellently, are more than willing to work, even to the extent of evacuating their old villages and tribal land and rebuilding new villages where ready access and transport is available. This is completely of their own accord but unfortunately can only lead to disappointment unless a lot more seed is allocated to the KIUNGA area by D.A.S.F. Headquarters.

The second factor is that some form of policy decision should be made fairly rapidly to determine the pattern of rubber processing, i.e., whether it is to be a central rubber factory processing crepe rubber or a series of small-holder units at the village level. If it is the former The KIUNGA Buyers' Society will need to consider its involvement in the near future.

(f) There are indeed few Aid Posts in the Council area (two), and not likely to be any more. It is not feasible to expect or to ask a Public Servant Medical Orderly to devote his time and energies to an isolated and generally unappreciative Lower Fly village. Despite all its inherent drawbacks the training and stationing of locally recruited Aid Post Orderlies is the only solution and seems to be working satisfactorily at DRIMBAS and EREKTA.

CONCLUSION

4. A successful and smooth initial tax collection by an officer who both the Council and the Administration could ill afford to lose by his resignation.

For your information,

M.P.C. Sage

(M.P.C. Sage)
a/ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Initial Tax Collection for the KIUNGA Local Government Council

KIUNGA
KIUNGA SUB-DISTRICT
WESTERN DISTRICT

Patrol Number 1 of 1966/67

Patrol Conducted by P.J. Parnwell, P.O.
Area patrolled KIUNGA Local Government Council area

Personnel Accompanying the Patrol G. Ai'io, Local Government Assistant
SIMIK Inter. part only
KOWOROT Inter. part only
SAHI Const. " "
UMAI Const. " "
HOVE Const. " "

Duration of Patrol 24/8/66 to 17/10/66 in broken periods
Total of 21 days

Last Patrol to the Area November-December 1965

Objects of Patrol Council Tax Collection
Routine Administration

(P.J. Parnwell)
PATROL OFFICER

10

KIUNGA PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1966/67

INITIAL TAX COLLECTION FOR KIUNGA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION

The initial tax collection for the KIUNGA Local Government Council proved surprisingly successful. Exemplified by the fact that all eligible taxpayers contacted paid. Defaulters remaining those absent from the area.

At the same time the tax collection showed up the diversity of the area forming the Council. Basically there are four geographic regions taking in the Council area totalling 2,480 square miles: the central river area, the outer river, the central inland and the outer inland. Apart from the geographic division these four areas also form regions of differing economic, political and social development.

The central river area, (that is the FLY River from MABADUAM in the south to GIPONAI in the north and the ALICE River villages) is the most developed in all aspects, economically through a fair abundance of crocodile skins, politically and socially through greater contact with the Administration due to there greater accessibility.

By the same token the outer river area (taking in the upper FLY River and ELEVALA River) development has been retarded by inaccessibility.

Again the central inland area (SOUTH AWIN Census Division) and outer inland area (the few NORTH AWIN villages in the Council) suffer from inaccessibility and scarcity of crocodile skins.

Therefore it is obvious a unified development of the KIUNGA Council area will depend on access being made to these inaccessible areas.

KIUNGA PATROL N° 1 of 1966-67

Initial Tax Collection of KIUNGA Local Government Council Area

PATROL DIARY

MOIAN Census Division

Wednesday 24th August, 1966

Patrol departed KIUNGA 0930 in M.V. JADE, down stream on a flooded river. Passed D'Albertis Junction 1130 and continued on down river to MABADUAM arriving 1830. Inspected village and slept at MABADUAM.

Thursday 25th August, 1966

Tax collected at MABADUAM. 1030 departed back up river to mouth of BINGE Creek, arriving 1215. 1245 departed for up creek to MEMBOK travelling in Tradewind dingy and 40h.p. outboard motor. Arrived MEMBOK canoe place 1445. Five minutes walk to village. Inspected MEMBOK and departed for KARENGU. Forty minutes walk along a good track. KARENGU village inspected and rubber nursery. Tax collected and slept at KARENGU.

Friday 26th August, 1966

Returned to MEMBOK, collected tax and departed canoe place at 1040 for mouth of creek, arriving back at 1215. Continued up Fly River in M.V. JADE to KUKUJABA arriving at 1350. Village inspected and tax collected. Slept at KUKUJABA.

Saturday 27th August, 1966

Departed KUKUJABA 0900 up river for ANGAMRUT, arriving at 1430. Inspected village and collected tax. Slept at ANGAMRUT.

Sunday 28th August, 1966

Departed ANGAMRUT for EREKTA Creek. Anchored JADE at mouth of creek and continued up creek in dingy and outboard for five minutes. Left dingy and walked along flooded track, waist deep, for a quarter of an hour before reaching EREKTA. Inspected village and collected tax. Returned to Jade and continued up river to NIOGOMBAN (half an hour short of D'Albertis Junction). Inspected NIOGOMBAN, collected tax and continued on up River to KIUNGA.

Patrol stood down.

SOUTH OK TEDI Census Division

Tuesday 6th September, 1966

Patrol departed KIUNGA at 0900 on M.V. JADE down Fly River. River 10 feet below high water mark. Reached D'Albertis Junction at 1115, turned into Alice River and continued up river to ATKAMBA U.F.M., arriving at 1330. Continued on to IERAN arriving at 1500. Village inspected and tax collected. JADE return a quarter of an hour down river to anchor on down stream side of rock bar. Slept at IERAN.

Wednesday 7th September, 1966

Departed IERAN at 0815 in Tradewind dingy and 35 h.p. outboard motor. 0830 stopped for repairs continued on at 0845. 0900 passed mouth of OK MART River. Continued on up OK TEDI to IOGI village where progress was slowed up by rock and gravel bars together with swift flowing current. Passed old MARAPKA village and reached creek leading to KOMOKBIN village at 1145. After negotiating creek check a block with logs, KOMOKBIN was reached at 1200. Village inspected and tax collected. Departed 1315 to return down river. Passed MARAPKA at 1400 and arrived at IOGI at 1430. Inspected village and collected taxes, departed 1600. Arrived 1610 at DOME (new village). Inspected DOME and WUKBAP (another new village just behind DOME) and collected tax for both villages. Departed DOME 1830, passed mouth of OK MART in near darkness at 1700, arrived back at IERAN at 1715. Slept at IERAN.

Thursday 8th September, 1966

Returned back up the OK Tedi, ^{to KONKONDA} quarter of an hour from IERAN (at new site), inspected village and collected tax. Returned down river passed IERAN to BONGUBUN where JADE was waiting, inspected village and collected tax. Moved on down river to UFM Mission at ATKAMBA. Lunched with missionaries and collected tax. Collected tax at nearby village of ARAN No III. Slept at ARAN No II.

Friday 9th September, 1966

Moved on down river to ARAN No I, inspected village and collected tax. Departed ARAN No I for KAWOK, back on the Fly River some fifteen minutes from D'Albertis Junction. Slept at KAWOK.

Saturday 10th September, 1966

Inspected KAWOK village and collected tax. Departed KAWOK at 1030 for KIUNGA. Trip back slow as full speed couldn't be utilized with a broken rudder cable on the JADE. Arrived KIUNGA 1400.

Patrol stood down.

SOUTH AWIN Census Division

Thursday 13th October, 1966

Carriers departed KIUNGA 0900, myself departing 0955 on motor cycle to the end of the vehicular road. Started walking at 1000. arrived at new site for GRIENCAS village at 1115 and continued on to old village site of GRE arriving at 1215, and finally arriving at MIASOMNAI at 1345. Village inspected and tax collected for both MIASOMNAI and SIUKNAI (it might be noted that in future SIUKNAI would rather go to KONKONDA than MIASOMNAI if their village is not visited). Slept at MIASOMNAI.

Friday 14th October, 1966

Departed MIASOMNAI at 0830 and arrived at OK MART at 1045. 1100 tax collected at U.F.M. mission at RUMGINAI. Lunched at mission and departed for BRIOMPENE at 1345 arriving at 1415. Inspected village and collected taxes for BRIOMPENE, GATUMSAN and RALENGRE. Slept at BRIOMPENE.

Saturday 15th October, 1966

Departed BRIOMPENE 0840, passed through RALENGRE at 0910 and arrived at SOMAIBINKIA at 1015. Continued for MINEGIRE at 1030 arriving at 1115. Continuing on for GI at 1130 arriving at 1215. Inspected village and collected tax for GI, MINEGIRE and

SOMAIBINKIA. Slept at GI.

Sunday 16th October, 1966

Departed GI 0815 for TIOMRAI arriving at 0900, village inspected. GRUPSOMAE, GREBIKE, ANTRHEMSOMRAE and APKOMRAE also assembled at TIOMRAI for paying tax. Tax collected. Departed TIOMRAI at 1300 for WISUAMENGRE along garden track, taking 2 hours 15 minutes. Inspected WISUAMENGRE and slept.

Monday 17th October, 1966

Collected tax at WISUAMENGRE and departed for GRIENGAS arriving after 35 minutes walk. Inspected village and collected tax for GRIENGAS and SOMAIDEMASUK (also assembled at GRIENGAS). Departed 1145 for KIUNGA along little used bush track. Reached main KIUNGA - RUMGINAI track at GHE after 4 hours 15 minutes walk, and with a further 3 hours walk arrived at KIUNGA at 1915. Returned two miles down the road with tractor and trailer to pick up straggling carriers.

Patrol stood down.

Note

The rest of the Council tax was collected in a series of one day patrols as follows:

MOIAN No. I, MOIAN No. II and EUROA - By Tradewinde dingy and outboard motor to MOIAN No. I and then back up the river to EUROA.

TIMINGEMASUK - By motorbike and 30 minutes walk.

DRIMEMASUK and GURETIM - By outboard motor and dingy and return.

MEU - WADIMRAE - By Land Rover.

GIPONAI, TIMINGONDOK, DRIMGAS, TUPENSOMRAE and DRIMSKAI - By outboard motor and dingy to TUPENSOMRAI (2 hours in Hercules and 40 h.p. Johnson) a further 30 minutes to DRIMSKAI in PALMER River. Return stopping at TIMINGONDOK and GIPONAI.

GUSIORE, SOGOROM, SASUKI, KESAPAIU, GURUMAI, PAMIENAI, GAUMENA - By dingy to SOGOROM (1 hour to mouth of ELEVALA, 45 minutes to GUSIORE and 35 minutes to SOGOROM, with 28 h.p. Johnson). KESEPAIUEU villages assembled at SOGOROM as river to low to go past SOGOROM. On return called in at GUSIORE.

KIUNGA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILTAX COLLECTION FOR 1966/67

At the end of the patrol the tax Collection stood at \$1,627.00 (estimated at \$1,745), collected from 1,101 male tax payers, representing 100% of eligible tax payers present. The rate being \$1.50 for men only, with a lower rate of 50¢ for the upper ELEVALA River villages.

A total of 213 men were counted to be absent. Most of them being absent from the District surprisingly enough (taxes of KIUNGA people in DARU having been collected in September). 29 tax exemptions were given.

Additional to the tax collected, \$168 were donated by women in the Council area, mostly from the southern FLY River villages and the ALICE River. As women were included in the original estimate this puts the total money collected past the estimate.

These figures are encouraging and I feel the Council can be quite happy with its first tax collection.

The rate of \$1.50 per man was estimated fairly accurately as a reasonable tax for these people. The villages in the southern section of the FLY River could possibly pay a little more, exemplified by the donations of the women. However some of the outer inland villages may find it a little harder to scrape \$1.50 together next year.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Despite earlier apprehension of the Council's success as a 'financial governing body' I feel there is a future for these people in their Council.

Firstly it is bringing a political awareness and an awareness of the fact that they have got to start doing something for themselves. Economically the advance of the council area will be slow with so limited finance available. However this problem should ease with the tapping of rubber.

Rubber has been the main motivation for this growing "awareness". Admittedly it is all for mercenary ends. However there is a genuine feeling in the council area (amongst the few who think) that things are happening in the Territory that they are possibly missing out on, and the nearest way to "be in it" is through rubber and the Council. This type of thought is being precipitated by the radio and people moving to and fro from the area to other parts of the Territory, e.g. police and P.I.R. returning on leave.

In this respect I feel more adult education training courses would be of considerable benefit.

VILLAGES

The standard of villages in both housing and cleanliness is surprisingly good, or better than one would expect. I would go as far as to say the villages in general are better than either the KIWAI Council area or the ORIONO-BITURI. The response to the recently passed council hygiene rule would have been partly responsible.

Movement of Villages This last year has seen considerable movement of villages to combine and move to new sites. Mainly as a result of Administration advice, especially from the Department of Agriculture Stocks and Fisheries, who have made it clear that rubber will only be given to villages in accessible places i.e. on navigable rivers or where vehicular roads have been constructed.

Up to date, moves and proposed moves are as follows:-

<u>Old Villages</u>	<u>New Village</u>
KWEMAN & OT	DOME (combined on new site on ALICE)
WORAN & TIMIN	WUKBID (combined on new site behind DOME)
MARAPKA	IOGI (combined on old site of IOGI)
KONKONDA	KONKONDA (new site near mouth of OK-MART)
PUIN & MOIAN No. 3	EUROA (combined in new site on DAGOM Creek)
URIME	DRIMSKAI (new site on PALMER River)
GREDEMASUK	TIMINGEMASUK (combined with TIMINGEMASUK at TIMINGEMASUK)
GRIENGAS	GRIENGAS (new site between GRE and KIUNGA on KIU.-RUMGINAE road)

Other SOUTH AWIN villages wish to move to the KIUNGA - RUMGINAE road which they are at present working on, as do the NORTH AWIN council villages. There is also a move afoot amongst some of the NORTH AWIN villages to move to the banks of the FLY River near TUPEKSOMRAE.

From an administrative point of view it would be expedient to move the NORTH AWIN council villages from NINGERUM's administration to KIUNGA's in the SOUTH AWIN Census Division.

TRANSPORT

The biggest percentage of the Council's area is dependant on river transport. The rest of the area has little better than walking tracks, although work is being done on a vehicular road between KIUNGA and RUMGINAE U.F.M. mission.

For the river patrolling the patrol travelled in the work-boat the M.V. JADE, that is in the navigable parts of the FLY and ALICE Rivers. This includes from KIUNGA down to MABADJAM village

and up the ALICE River as far as IERAN Village. The rest of the river work was done by dingy and outboard motor which restricted the patrols activities considerably by the dingy's low carrying capacity. In this respect patrolling in the upper reaches of all rivers is severely hampered without the use of something similar to the large flat bottomed river trucks. This has been proved by Oil Exploration Enterprises use of the same in the KIUNGA area, where they ventured into many areas where the Administration has not been able to go with heavy dugout canoes or small light dingys.

Walking tracks in the area are generally very good by Western District standards and the distances aren't too great. As mentioned earlier there has been a move by many of the SOUTH AWIN villages and some of the NORTH AWIN villages to resettle on the KIUNGA-RUMGINAI road. The aim is to make the road usable to tractors and trailers so they can get rubber. At present there are several villages working on stretches of this road. However time will only tell how it will progress. Nearby TIMINGEMASUK Village has already built a mile and a half of road from their proposed rubber blocks, to link up with the three miles of vehicular road running out of KIUNGA.

AGRICULTURE

Apart from rubber, agriculture amounts to little more than native subsistence agriculture and a few native vegetables sold to the Government and mission stations. Sage and bananas remain the staple diet.

However the rubber side of agriculture is quite impressive and looks very promising. Over the past two years rubber nurseries have been set up at KIUNGA (and recently at KARENGU Village) using imported Malayan seeds. The seedlings have then been distributed to villages on the FLY River (where blocks have been cleared) up as far as GIPONAI and down to MOIAN No. 1 plus ATKAMBA and RUMGINAI U.F.M. missions.

At present there are 75 acres already planted with 12,387 trees and there are 126 acres cleared ready for planting. And with another 150 acres cleared but not marked there will be another 276 acres planted within twelve months.

The villagers seem to be responding excellently to the rubber extension. Probably as it is the first time the Administration has done anything concrete towards their economic advancement.

HEALTH

Health is fair, and would seem to be no worse than the rest of the District.

There is the usual skin diseases and tuberculosis. One rather alarming point is the incidence of elephantiasis in the lower FLY River area where it effects at least 65% of the adult male population.

There are few aid posts in the Council area and more are badly needed. The posting of a mission doctor at RUMGINAE U.F.M. will be of great benefit to the AWINS of that area.

EDUCATION

Three mission schools cater for education and seem to be doing quite a fair job. They are U.F.M. schools at ATKAMBA and RUMGINAE and Montfort Roman Catholic school at KIUNGA.

A technical school or something similar is badly needed in the area, especially at KIUNGA. This would not be duplicating services provided by the missions and it would help fill an important gap in the development of the Council area.

CONCLUSION

The initial KIUNGA Local Government Council tax collection was carried out successfully without any apparent problems.

Rubber extension in the Council area seems to have given the people some drive. If this can be kept up and tapped to other purposes as well, then the Council can look forward to a brighter future.

TERRITORY of PAPUA and NEW GUINEA

Administration
Press Advice
No. 205.

Port Moresby,
March 8, 1967.

WESTERN DISTRICT RUBBER PROSPECTS BRIGHT

The Department of Agriculture expects to increase nursery plantings of rubber seedlings at Kiunga, Western District to 200,000 by the end of August, 1968.

The Regional Agriculture Officer, Mr. F. Kleckham, announcing the increase in Port Moresby today, said current nursery stock would have increased from 50,000 to 150,000 seedlings by the end of next August.

The department was doing its best to keep pace with the people's enthusiastic response to the introduction of rubber as a cash crop.

More than 200 acres had already been planted.

Rubber was introduced to the Western District in late 1962.

A nursery plot for trial and demonstration was established at the Oriomo Agricultural Station.

Later, Malayan seed was introduced and additional nurseries planted at Kiunga, Lake Murray and other parts of the Western District.

Rubber stumps from nursery stock were then distributed to prospective village planters while Agricultural officers carried out a programme of instruction on rubber cultivation.

Mr. Kleckham said the Department was now considering plans for processing the rubber produced by the village people.

Investigations were being made into the advisability of establishing a central rubber factory to produce crepe rubber, or to promote a series of small holder units at village level.



- LEGEND
- Station, Govt. or Mission ■
 - Airstrip +
 - Village •
 - Vehicular Road - - - -
 - Census Division MOIAN

Map to accompany

KIUNGA
CO
Showing
FOUR



UNGA LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COUNCIL AREA

Showing Council Villages only

FOUR MILES : ONE INCH

To accompany KIUNGA Patrol Report No 1 of 1966/67

P. J. PARNWELL, Patrol Officer

HQ



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. KIUNGA No 2/66-67

Patrol Conducted by JC Edgar GPO

Area Patrolled North & East Awin Census Divisions

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....

Natives Local Govt. Asst., 1 interpreter, 2 RP&HC

Duration—From 4/1/1967 to 13/2/1967 (broken)

Number of Days.....15 days 8 nights

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services.....11/1966

Medical10/1965

Map Reference.....Army series 3504 Blucher Range and Raggi. Patrol Map.

Objects of Patrol.....Local Government Elections. General administration.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

.....
District Commissioner

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

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

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

.....

.....

.....

67-5-1:
 Our Reference 6-2-11
 If calling ask for
 Mr. RAC. MEE



Department of District Administration, (70)

Western District,
 DARU.

1st November, 1967.

The Director,
 Department of District Administration,
 KONE DOBU: (18)

KIUNGA Patrol 2/66-67

Your 67-3-22 of 12th July, 1967, refers. Please find herewith a short memo from the Assistant District Commissioner, KIUNGA, on this subject.

2. The impetus to the commencement of a land resettlement scheme in the KIUNGA area has stemmed mainly from the policy of Department of Agriculture in distributing rubber seed only to those people who have blocks with access by road or water. Those whose tribal land did not have such access have in many cases migrated en masse onto vacant land, under loose terms of permissive occupancy from the putative owners.

3. Various designs have been produced at the District level, notably by former D.A.O. Mr. Murrie for the development and subdivision of large areas of land to be alienated. The present D.A.O., Mr. PENDERGAST, has however some reservations about the MURRIE design, as he feels it not sufficiently realistic in terms of terrain, i.e., areas of swamp, and steep hills and gullies, are so numerous as to preclude the layout on the ground of what is basically a paper plan.

4. Present District thinking, as developed in discussions with District heads and the District Co-ordinating Committee, calls for the alienation of some 50-70 square miles in several parcels, at a nominal price of say, 20 cents an acre. This would involve a capital outlay of between \$6400 and \$8960 for land purchase.

5. Should an investigation with a view to such purchase be approved by Lands Department, current DDA staff levels would probably permit such an operation after the 1968 elections, but our basic problem then would be to find the staff to develop this purchased land into an adequate series of subdivisions. His Honour the Administrator intimated to the District Staff Conference during his recent inspection visit that we should not expect Headquarters assistance for such a task.

6. The project, then, would seem to be halted because of staff and finance considerations, although it would still be in our interests to purchase such an area in the next year or so before land values become inflated, and these largely vacant and unused areas acquire for themselves various groups of disputing owners.

7. In view of the foregoing your views would be appreciated, please, on the extent to which you would support a detailed plan to be submitted, through Agriculture, to the Lands Department, with the aim of having the latter Department provide the necessary staff for alienation and subdivisional design. Such a plan would be the result of concerted effort by this office, the District Agricultural Officer, and the Assistant District Commissioner at KIUNGA.

8. For your consideration, and advice, please.

I. Holmes
 (I. Holmes) *hb*
 ACTING DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

67-5-1

19
KIUNGA

Western District.

3rd October, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
Western District,
DABU

KIUNGA PATROL No. 2 of 1966/67

Your memo 67-5-1 of July 18th, refers.


This delayed reply is regretted.

While in Dabu and during my short stay here at Kiunga I have heard many arguments made in favour and in opposition to a Resettlement Scheme in this region. You will probably recall our DMO mentioned this subject to His Honour during recent discussions in your Office at Dabu.

There is no doubt in my mind that this question of resettlement is becoming increasingly urgent and that it should be investigated by a person or group of people with expert knowledge of this subject. The resettlement question at Kiunga involves traditional land tenure problems and relationships between clans etc. These are basic matters in any community and any land resettlement scheme must be based on a firm understanding of these matters in this region.

Any land resettlement scheme will have a strong influence on future social, political and particularly economic development therefore decisions must be based upon sound advice provided by experienced people.

Resettlement will again be raised with the Kiunga Local Government Council as it is a question of extreme importance to residents. I expect councillors will ask for a special study to be made which will enable them to make decisions for future action on a firm basis, which is exactly what this Administration should do.


F. J. L. Haynes,
Assistant District Commissioner.



67-3-22

12th July, 1967.

District Commissioner,
Western District,
DARU.

KIUNGA PATROL NO. 2 OF 1966/67

Your 67-5-1 of 20th April, 1967, refers.

I have noted your comments and those of the Assistant District Commissioner, Kiunga, with interest. After reading them and Mr. Edgar's very reasonable report, I am in a position to assess the situation in this area, its problems and your officers' attitudes.

Mr. Sage's comments may be unduly despairing in the light of information provided by the report, which indicates that some worthwhile progress has been made in this area despite its difficulties. The introduction of a Council could not reasonably be expected to result in dramatic achievements in such a short time. It seems to me that there does appear to be every chance that, with patience, proper and enthusiastic direction and encouragement, the growing interest in development can be further stimulated.

It would seem that a more lively patrol programme at Kiunga would be an excellent starting point in the development of this area, in activating self help schemes and in welding the various groups and wards into a co-operative and cohesive Council organisation. This means work, patrolling, constant and patient explanation. I agree that the task is a big one. It is a challenge that must and will be met, and won, as it has been in other similarly difficult areas.

I am especially interested in your suggestion that resettlement should be considered in the area. This would definitely stimulate rubber planting if carried through. You no doubt are making positive enquiries through the Departments of Land and Agriculture and investigations into availability of land for purchase. The land purchased most likely would be settled, in part, by the previous owners.

This has been a neglected area but the native situation is evidently still quite good. Your officers at Kiunga have a big job ahead of them. They must make the Council a respected and authoritative organisation and must direct the people's activity towards the most beneficial projects.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

(2)

some other low-level Councils the people seem to be opposed to "self-help" community spirit and an individual will only work to benefit himself. e.g., The Council Chambers are not yet complete and have no proper steps, benches or windows. The people, including the Councils, will not attend to these matters unless they are paid. With only a limited income and unwillingness to commence any project unless everything from timber to labour is paid for in cash (and at the full rate and not merely a token) it is difficult to provide any services or provide something concrete that the people can see. The dilemma is therefore that the people do not support the Council as it does not give them anything and the Council is unable to give or provide services to the people as they will not assist it to get off its feet by providing assistance for community projects.

Rivalry is still evident between the AWINS and the YUNGGUM group, even to the extent that the representative candidate for the Regional Local Government Conference, being an AWIN, could get no assistance or advice from the YUNGGUM section in matters to discuss at the Conference.

(e) COMMERCE and INDUSTRY

The KIUNGA Buyer's Society has a disproportionate amount of trading with non-member consumers, i.e., station staff who spend more per person than the villager who has much less buying power than a Public Servant.

The modern new store as mentioned by Mr. Edgar was built solely through the voluntary efforts of Administration staff and several of the Society Directors; the village people, to a man, refusing to work on the store unless they were paid.

(f) RUBBER and MIGRATIONS

As Mr. Edgar clearly outlines the problems concerned are not inconsiderable in regard to rubber and migrations. Reasons for the mass migrations are that the people were told that L.A.S.F. was not interested and could not cope with areas that were not on a road or by one of the main waterways.

Various Officers have, over the years, without any substantial funds allocation been dabbling in the KIUNGA to RUMGINAE road but at this present stage beyond the first few miles it can not be considered an all weather road. The people are making strenuous efforts to form the road but if it is to be of any value substantial funds must be allocated. Even funds on Minor New Works for the purchase of tools would be a help.

Nevertheless in the eyes of the people the road will be open to some form of traffic and they will therefore be eligible for rubber.

Unfortunately, there is not enough rubber available at KIUNGA for distribution to those areas already under establishment and it is apparent that some are doomed to disappointment unless the Administration can find its way to allocate more rubber to the area. Failing this there is bound to be bitterness and resentment as people do not uproot whole villages and clear land in expectation of something that they will not receive.

Events like these are bound to occur when one considers that in the last three months three Agriculture Officers have resigned from KIUNGA so continuation of a plan is well nigh impossible. When the current Agriculture Officer returns from leave without pay I myself will patrol into the areas concerned with a view to determining completion of the road and rubber allocation from the scarce KIUNGA rubber resources

4. A patrol report with a lot of valuable information,

M.P.C. Sage
(M.P.C. Sage)

a/ ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. Mr. J.C. Edgar, KIUNGA

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams.....

Our Reference..... 67-5-1.....

If calling ask for

Mr..... MPS;mpv.....

Department of District Administration.

Sub-District Office,
Western District,
KIUNGA.

18th. April, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
Department of District Administration,
Western District
PAPUA.

KIUNGA PATROL REPORT No. 2/1966/1967

SOUTH AWIN, EAST AWIN and SOUTHERN NORTH AWIN CENSUS DIVISIONS

J.C. EDGAR, GADET PATROL OFFICER

Enclosed are two copies of Mr. Edgar's Patrol Report and Patrol Instructions.

2. The patrol was primarily to conduct the AWIN section of the KIUNGA Local Government Elections.

3. The full 1967 Local Government Election report was forwarded to the Commissioner for Local Government on the 3rd. March, 1967, together with a copy to yourself.

4. Points to be dealt with are ;

(a) COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The lack of interest in the Council by the ELEVALA peoples will probably be rectified as they have shifted further west towards the more accessible areas closer to KIUNGA.

(b) HEALTH

The large incidence of tuberculosis will no doubt be rectified when the Unevangelised Fields Mission establishes its T.B. hospital at RUMGINAE. RUMGINAE, which is the population centre for the area has a fully qualified Doctor who is more than willing to extend her activities throughout the Sub-District. Unfortunately, the "flying Doctor" service has been so far unsuccessful as although aircraft are available the organization side has fallen down .

(c) VILLAGES

Despite Mr. Edgar's adverse comments regarding the failure to construct "ideal" villages I have been informed by the people concerned that they do not intend to construct a permanent decent village until the Administration firmly states that they are to receive rubber. i.e., these migrations of villages into areas of easier access are for the purpose of receiving rubber. If rubber is not forthcoming they will return to their traditional tribal land.

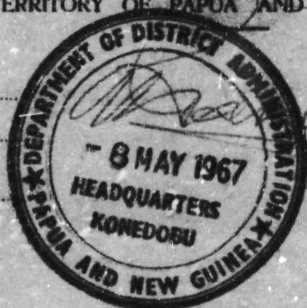
(d) POLITICAL SITUATION

The KIUNGA Council is very shaky and while the Council is not financially able to make any progress at anything concrete it will be difficult for it to improve as it can do little more than act as a medium through which criticism can be levelled at the Administration. Unlike

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67. 3. 23
(17)

Telegrams..... 67-5-1
Our Reference.....
If calling ask for RAC.MEP
Mr.....



Department of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.

28th April, 1967.

The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

KIUNGA Patrol 2/66-67

Please find herewith the original of the above report, submitted by Mr.J.C.EDGAR, Cadet Patrol Office, together with patrol instructions and covering letter 67-5-1 of 18th April, 1967, from the Assistant District Commissioner, KIUNGA.

2. As the patrol was completed on 13th February, 1967 and received here on 26th April, 1967, it is evident that Mr.EDGAR is not very prompt in the matter of patrol reporting. However, despite this, the report is a very good effort for an Officer of his seniority, and he is to be commended.

3. The basic problems in the area are those which occur in many newly proclaimed Council areas. Once the initial bursts of enthusiasm have passed, the people tend to relax, and lose interest in any form of self-help. A grant-in-aid from the Administration is now being processed, and this may spur some initiative but basically we have to expend much patient effort in encouraging this. Inter-group rivalry is another disruptive influence, and again, one not prone to easy or quick solution.

4. Problems of land tenure for the "rubber squatters" will increase, especially when the owners realize that land values rise once perennial crops have been planted. Our approach here could well be a resettlement scheme of some size, for which we would require assistance from the Departments of Land and Agriculture. As land in the KIUNGA area is plentiful, there may be many owners inclined to sell if we can offer a reasonable price, and get their support for a resettlement plan.

5. I agree with Mr.SAGE that report contains much valuable information, and believe that Mr.EDGAR has prepared quite a good report.

c.c.
Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub District Office,
KIUNGA.

F.A. Bensted
(F.A. Bensted)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

4/7



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

(14)

Telegrams.....
Our Reference... **67-1-1**
If calling ask for **aps**
Mr.....

Department of District Administration,
Western District,
KIUNGA.

3rd. January, 1967.

Mr. J. Nigar, Cadet Patrol Officer,
Sub-District Office,
Western District,
KIUNGA.

KIUNGA COUNCIL ELECTION PATROL

SOUTH AWIN, EAST AWIN and SOUTHERN NORTH AWIN CENSUS & DIVISIONS

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS.

The prime aim of this patrol is to conduct the Second KIUNGA Local Government Council Elections.

2. You are appointed by myself as Assistant Returning Officer and Mr. G. Al'io, Local Government Assistant is to act as your Presiding Officer.

3. You are to conduct the elections in the following manner.

(1) At each Ward centre amend the Roll of Electors. This can best be done in conjunction with the Census book to ascertain deaths, marriages, absentee labourers, migrations in and out etc.

(ii) Then give a talk on the aims and ideals of the Council and what is required of a Councillor. Stress that occupation of office this time is for two years.

(iii) Accept nominations.

(iv) When the people are ready, preferably the next day, conduct the elections.

4. (v) The actual election will be conducted in accordance with the "Directions for the Conduct of Elections for Local Government Councils" and as discussed with myself.

5. Virtually all people will need assistance, i.e., there are few people who will be able to fill in a ballot paper by themselves.

6. Remembering that the election period does not technically finish until the 13th. February, 1967, if it is apparent during voting that one nominee is certain to have an absolute majority upon completion of voting for the Ward the count can be done and the people informed of the successful provisional candidate.

7. If an absolute majority is not readily certain the ballot papers are to remain sealed until all persons on the electoral roll have been given the opportunity to vote, i.e., if necessary "pick up" voters at HUNGINAE Mission station and any others working for the Administration or Missions at KIUNGA.

8. Points to be born in mind are;

(a) Wards, and in particular the spellings, are to remain as per initial Proclamation. Therefore, although there have been changes in villages amalgamating and...

(13)

Keep them in their original Electoral Rolls. In the case of any on mass movement of KIMBERN people who have already paid Council Tax they are to be treated as alterations in and incorporated into existing Rolls.

(11) No doubt some fairly major changes will have to be undertaken in Ward structure and names after the elections.

(11a) Returns are per Section 37 of the Ordinance and are to be submitted on completion of the patrol in the form of statistics and a patrol report to myself which will be commented upon before being forwarded to the Commissioner for Local Government.

(1v) In columns (3), (4) and (5) of form 10, the Voting Statistics; note that the number of Electors Unwillingly absent refers to those who are bona fide absentees, i.e. those who because of sickness or work found it impossible to be present at elections.

9. Other duties to be done in conjunction with the patrol are:

(i) Compile a Shotgun Register.

(ii) Inform all persons who have Special Arms Permits that they are no longer valid and that they are required to have their guns registered at this office.

(iii) Outline the provisions of the new Ordinance to quash firearms spreading. As far as these people are concerned there has been no major change in Shotgun Policy.

(iv) In the case of any would be applicants take details and refer them to me. If a village has more than 40 and applicants appear to want weapons for other than economic purposes inform them that there is little hope of them receiving registrations. Shotguns in future will be purchased at the KIRWA BUYERS Society which will be licensed to sell firearms.

10. As you are aware there has been an upheaval of villages moving from their own land onto land suitable for rubber plots or near to means of transportation. In the following years this will cause serious land tenure problems unless some form of land title is given. Ascertain who has moved where and also on what basis and who has available rights. Make no comment on the matter, merely collect as much data as possible it can be later dealt with or rectified.

11. Arbitrate in any disputes or complaints. In any matters requiring judicial attention inform those concerned that they are to come into KIRWA on the completion of the patrol. Have no police under arrest unless they are covered by a warrant.

12. Use your discretion in dealing with other matters of an administrative nature.

13. Publicise the KIRWA Buyer's Society, The Trans-Fly Shipping Society and notify the people that there is to be a General Shareholder's meeting at KIRWA on February the 22nd.

14. Do not hesitate to ask on any point before you set out.

A. Sage

(M.P.G. Sage)

ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

12

STATION: Kiunga

SUB-DISTRICT: Kiunga

DISTRICT: Western

PATROL NO: No2 of 66-67

CONDUCTED BY: JC Edgar CPO

AREA PATROLLED: North & East AWEN Census Divisions.
(Those villages inside the Kiunga
Local Government Council)

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING: Presiding Officer - Mr G Ai'io LGA
1 interpreter
2 RP&NGC(part)

DURATION OF PATROL: 4/1/67 - 9/1/67 25/1/67 - 26/1/67
11/1/67 (one) 2/2/67 (one)
16/1/67 - 19/1/67 7/2/67 - 8/2/67
15 days - 8 nights.

LAST PATROL: DDA 11/66. No1 of 66-67

OBJECTS OF PATROL: Local Government Elections

MAP REFERENCE: Army Series T 504 of Blucher Range
+ Raggi. Patrol Map.

(11)

PATROL DIARY

January 4, 1967. Departed Kiunga Station at 0945 for Rumginae direct accompanied by Local Government Assistant (Presiding Officer), interpreter and two police constables. Route taken passed through the following new village conglomerations in order: GRIENGAS-SOMAIDEMASUK; GI-SOMAIBININKIA-MININGIRAE; TIOMRAE-GREBIKE; APKOMRAE-ANTRIEMSCOMRAE; GRE-WISUAMENGRE-GRUPSOMRAE and finally to MIASOMRAE where the patrol stayed overnight. All villages were advised that the patrol would be returning in a couple of days and to make the necessary preparations. At MIASOMRAE.

5 Departed for RUMGINAE UFM Mission Station at 0745 arriving at 1005. The villages of Ward 20 namely RALENGRE-GATUMSAN-BRIOMPENE-RUMGINAE Station were assembled and pre-election talks and discussions held. Secret polling booths set up and left the people who were avidly talking amongst themselves to have lunch with Missionary Mr R Goodlet. 1330 nominations taken and the elections began. Towards late afternoon polling completed and the count commenced. WARD 20 - Councillor BIAGNON. Stayed the night with Mr Goodlet and family.

6 A general inspection of the Rumginae Station with Mr C Robb and general talks about the area and its problems. Looked at the rubber block and thence onto the school where a talk was given on Local Government and its purpose - questions replied. 1050 departed for MIASOMRAE arriving at 1330. Lunch and then pre-election talks and the like. Secret polling booths constructed. At Miasomrae.

7 0800 nominations taken and the elections began. Tally completed at 1225. WARD 17 - Councillor WCDIA. Departed for GRE-WISUAMENGRE-GRUPSOMRAE and pre-election talks held, nominations taken and the election begun. WARD 7 - Councillor KWANI. Left for APKOMRAE-ANTRIEMSCOMRAE where talks given, nominations received and elections commenced. WARD 1 - Councillor TUKWORO. Stayed the night at APKOMRAE.

8 Observed at APKOMRAE.

9 Left APKOMRAE and moved onto TIOMRAE-GREBIKE, about ~~XXXX~~ ten minutes walk. Pre-election talks, nominations received and elections begun. WARD 5 - Councillor KAPE. GI-SOMAIBININKIA-MININGIRAE villages also present so electoral procedures conducted. WARD 4 - Councillor GRAPINAI. Moved on to GRIENGAS-SOMAIDEMASUK about fifteen minutes walk and elections conducted there also. (Departed for Kiunga arriving at 1935.) WARD 21 Councillor DUAROM.

11 Left Kiunga for TUINDEMASUK-GREDEMASUK AT 1000 arriving at 1115. Pre-election talks, nominations received and elections commenced. Tally completed by 1545. General inspection of village. WARD 6 - Councillor JAMA.

(10)

January 16, 1967. Departed Kiunga per powered canoe at 0930 for TUPENSOMRAE arriving at 1545 on flood river. The usual pre-election talks and discussions on local government in general. At TUPENSOMRAE.

17 Nominations taken and elections conducted for WARD 3 - Councillor TETE. Departed downstream for GIPONAI 1120 arriving at 1255. Pre-election talks and the like and polling booths made. At GIPONAI.

18 Nominations taken and the elections conducted for WARD 22 - Councillor KEM. Set off downstream for DRIMDEMASUK at 1330 arriving an hour and twenty minutes later. Pre-election talks, construction of polling booths and inspection of the rubber block which is very large - approx. 60 acres. At DRIMDEMASUK.

19 Nominations taken and the elections conducted for WARD 8 - Councillor SAM. Departed for Kiunga at 1300 arriving at 1410.

25 Departed Kiunga at 0830 per powered dinghy for GUSTORE arriving at 1020. However very few people present and most were under the impression that the elections were to be held at SOGOROM. Advised that the elections will be held tomorrow at SOGOROM. Returned back to Kiunga.

26 Departed Kiunga at 0900 for SOGOROM arriving at 1110. Pre-election talks, nominations accepted and the elections conducted. WARD 9 Councillor-WEKRE. Returned back to Kiunga.

February 2, 1967. Left for ~~KASEPAIU~~ GUSTORE by powered dinghy to conduct Ward 12 - KASEPAIU elections. Councillor TU. Returned to Kiunga.

7-8 Conducting WARD 16 elections - MEPU-KADIMRAE-SIUKNAI-KONKONDA -KIUNGA. Councillor - REM of MEPU elected even though his opposition included two Public Serwants namely Interpreter Simik and Agriculturilist Seyou.

(9)

INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of the patrol was to conduct the second KIUNGA Local Government Council elections. The area covered during the patrol comprised some parts of the South and East Awia Census Divisions. Items of a routine administrative nature were attended whenever necessary.

The Kiunga Council was opened in February 1966 and has only held two meetings since then. The council comprises the tribal groups of the Yungua, Awia and the Pare-Awias from the Elevala River.

The standard of development in the area is extremely low. Only in the last few years have the Awia people congregated to live together in permanent villages and developed some kind of firm village society. In the past the Kiunga area was regarded as a good hunting ground for labour recruiting and as a result many of the young men and some of the older men have gained good experience from working in the big centres and on projects like oil exploration. Now, however, the picture is changing as the Kiunga Rubber Scheme gains momentum and there is the promise of the "big money" for all. This scheme has caused a big upheaval in the area and it is the sole unifying factor in the area.

The area is covered with tropical rain forest spliced with low lying ridges and small creeks. The flat areas tend to turn into swamps where large tracts of sago palms grow. The rainfall is high and constant - somewhere in the vicinity of +200" a year. The average altitude of the area is approximately 200 feet.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

This section is only a supplement to the formal elections ~~XXXX~~ report as compiled by the Returning Officer - Mr. Sage. Polling was conducted at twelve centres including the Kiunga Station. The following items could be noted here as they are of some interest:

- 1 All the successful candidates were virtually reelected unanmously.
- 2 No women stood for election.
- 3 Generally the polling procedures were understood.
- 4 A general lack of interest was shown from the two wards in the Elevala River area. The absenteeism rate was approx. 50% with the majority of the people occupied with gardening in the bush.
- 5 Generally three or four candidates stood for election.
- 6 Mild interest ~~was~~ was only shown about the elections.
- 7 Polling centres are these shown in the patrol diary.

HEALTH

The standard of health in the area is only average. As a medic did not accompany the patrol the incidence of disease and infections can only be noted by the reporting officers observations. Small sores and infections are common and are often allowed to be left untreated. One case of yaws was seen and the patient was brought to Kiunga for treatment by powered dinghy. Tuberculous is very prevalent in the area and it is estimated there are over fifty patients at Daru Hospital undergoing treatment now who come from this area. Hospitals are located at Kiunga and Runginae both with competent European staff. The general lack of nutrition in the diet and the adverse climate are felt to be the reasons for the overall low standards in health and cleanliness.

VILLAGES

As outlined in the patrol instructions and advice from several quarters it was known that many of the North Aven Census Division villages had migrated onto the road that runs from Kiunga to the UFM Mission Station at Runginae. This migration will be reported under another heading but the following details may be noted here.

1 Even though these people have had an excellent opportunity to plan and execute the construction of an "ideal" village, build a bigger and more substantial type of house and develop any sense of civic pride they may have had; their houses and village plan remain unchanged.

2 Houses are still very small, built close together and not very strong and durable.

3 Sites chosen are good, usually on high spurs and ridges. Fresh, clear running water is usually available nearby.

4 At the time of the patrol the new village groups had scarcely completed the building of the houses and the village grounds were covered with logs and bush litter.

5 Each dwelling has a "smallhaus" but it is doubtful whether they are regularly visited.

OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION

On the whole the morale of the area is high probably due to the following factors.

1 The Kiunga Rubber Scheme with its promise of riches and economic independence. This point will be enlarged upon under a separate heading.

2 Increasing administration interest and activity in the area. For example the building up of the Kiunga Station and its airstrip, the establishment of a Local Government Council, the development of the Kiunga Buyers Society, the large recruitment of DASF labourers for agricultural training both at Kiunga and around Port Moresby and the semi-sponsorship of the construction of a vehicular road from Kiunga to Runginae.

3 The House of Assembly Elections (1964) and the 1966 Census special patrols as well as two local government election patrols have demonstrated that the Administration wants the area to become politically mindful and to remain ignorant of the latest political moves.

Consequently the Administration is becoming increasingly respected not simply because it is the "government" but because it is showing a genuine interest in the area and that it wants it to be responsible and self-sufficient. The people are gradually realising the difficulties of this area; its isolation and its unfavourable climate, soils, topography and their own lack of skills. However, the frustrations they once felt about not producing from the area a cash income are diminishing in light of the rubber scheme and in the way that they have keenly participated in it.

The Yungams are the biggest neighbouring group to the Avenae. There is negligible social-intercourse between the two but considering that now they are a political unit - amalgamated into the Kiunga Local Government Council petty differences will be forgotten and with the introduction of rubber the two groups will form a sizable economic bloc. The next tribal group to make up the Council is the Akium-Pare group who speak a dialect that is a mixture of the Aven language and the Pare language. Pare is a part of the Nomad Sub-District. The people from the headwaters of the Elevala River - they have two representatives in the Council - are at a distinct disadvantage when they come to Kiunga for meetings as their language is barely understood and the councillor from Kasepau village cannot even speak the lingua franca used at the meetings - Motu.

(2)

OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION (contd)

To the immediate north live the Ningerums who are regarded as inferior to the Awins and not as "civilised". However all these groups belong to the same linguistic family - the OK.

When these groups combined to form the Kiunga Council certain antagonisms are certain to be felt and these have manifested themselves in various ways. Firstly there are two blocs in the council - the Awins and the Yungams and when an issue arises that will benefit one bloc then the others will immediately veto it. However, the Awins are in the majority with fourteen votes while the Yungams can only muster eight. It must be admitted that this undesirable for a local government council in an area like this where every effort must be made to raise the standards of the entire area.

Understanding of the council and its functions is deplorably poor and most of the councillors are in the dark as to what the Council is really supposed to do. This is in no way a reflection on the government officers at Kiunga but simply that the people themselves cannot seem to be able to fathom what this startling new and responsible innovation really means and how it can be related to themselves. It is intended in the future to spend a whole day prior to the meetings discussing the local government movement and in particular as applied to this area.

Few complaints were brought forward but these were of a very minor nature and were easily settled.

Summing up I feel that this area is becoming more cohesive due to the rubber scheme and the council but it shall be a long time before the area can be said to be thriving.

THE KIUNGA RUBBER SCHEME

Conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries it was commenced in early 1965 when the first batch of Malayan rubber seeds were planted at Kiunga. Since then more than 300 hundred acres of rubber stumps have been planted out in village blocks and approximately a further 300 acres has been planned for future planting out.

Working on a system of clearing a surveyed block of ground close to village that is near transport (river or road) and then planting out the rubber stumps in rows; Each adult male may own one or more rows. It is envisaged that the Kiunga Buyers Society will supervise the collection, processing and marketing of the raw rubber and will provide the capital for these activities.

Only those villages which are located close to transport links (in this area the navigable rivers) have been given rubber stumps, but, of course those villages inland cannot see why that they cannot have rubber too. As a result many there have been large scale migrations from the North Awin villages onto a transport route and in this case the proposed vehicular road from Kiunga to Runginae (see patrol map and Kga Patrol Report map No1/66-67). Rubber has not yet been issued to these villages but they seem quite certain that they will get it even though they have not been officially promised it.

It is realised that the cultivation of rubber requires skill and proper knowledge and constant supervision if it is to be profitable. To this end the Agriculture Department has recruited over sixty young men and has sent them to various rubber schemes in the Central District, as well as employing about forty young men at Kiunga as farmer trainees. It is hoped that when their training is completed they will return to their respective villages and impart their newly learned knowledge to the other men.

Squad
Admin
has been
committed

(C)

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The Kiunga Buyers Society, a co-operative, is endeavouring to stimulate some kind of an economy in the area. It is doing this at the moment by dealing with crocodile skins - the only product of the area - and in return retailing. This is not a very sound basis for a commercial enterprise which has high aims but it is still a good foundation for the anticipated boom that will follow - it is hoped - the maturity of the rubber scheme. At the moment however, the Society is not on a very strong financial footing and needs close supervision to prevent it going on the rocks.

A handsome store building has just recently been completed and takes away that feeling of "don't let's worry - it's only a trade store" and signifies that the Society is capable of bigger and brighter things. To the village man it surely means that his place can at least do something properly.

The Catholic Mission at Kiunga runs a trade store and there is a small store at Runginae also. Actually the Catholic store is a serious business competitor to the Society and much revenue is lost to it. However, there seems little that can be done about it.

Cash incomes are derived usually from the sale of crocodile skins, selling of fresh food to the establishments at Kiunga and government employment usually as labourers. Per annum this does not amount to much but it provides a little pocket money to spend.

MISSIONS

There are ~~xxxxxx~~ two missions active in the area. Firstly the Unevangelised Fields Mission at Runginae, has been established there from a little time after the completion of the Second World War. Their work embraces education, health services, evangelism and as a general welfare centre for the immediate ~~xxx~~ area. There are two Europeans teaching at the Standard 6 school but the first two years of schooling are taught in the local language which the entire mission personnel speak fluently. A medical doctor has recently been stationed there and plans are being drawn up to initiate a "flying Doctor" service for the Kiunga Sub-District. Of course the standard of health services at Runginae are excellent. The European staff numbers about three married families and one or two single people of either sex. Considering the meagre funds they have at their disposal the UFM at Runginae are doing a pretty good job.

The picture is completely opposite at Kiunga where a French-Canadian Roman Catholic mission are established. They also offer an education to Standard 6 and provide health services but little is done in the way of basic welfare. Also as opposed to the UFM who endeavour to train local people as nurses, ~~xxx~~ schoolteachers and the like the Kiunga mission has done little work in this field. Apparently their access to funds must be good because all buildings are built out of permanent materials (UFM bush materials only), one light aircraft is based at Kiunga, two tractor-trailers, one saw-milling outfit and one fifty foot K boat. Quite a lot of equipment really when one considers that the UFM has ~~any~~ only a small horsepower outboard motor. This affluence of the Kiunga mission brings in quiet a few converts but deep down I think the people consider the UFM crowd to be the most considerate and hardworking.

(5)

MIGRATIONS

This chapter is devoted to answering para ¹⁰ 8(F) of the patrol instructions - 67-1-1 of the 3rd January, 1967.

Eleven villages are involved in the migration namely WISUAMEKRE, GRUPSOMRAE, AKOMRAE, ANTRIEMSOMRAE, TIOMRAE, GREZIKE, GI, SOMAIBININKIA, MININGIRAE, GRIENGAS and SOMAIDEMASUK all from the southern reaches of the North Awir Census Division and the northern reaches of the South Awir Census Division. They have joined together to form a village combines as illustrated on the patrol map.

The reason for the migration is solely to be able to participate in the Kiunga rubber scheme as outlined in a chapter of the same name. Somewhere the rumour started that the administration were to construct a vehicular road from Kiunga to Kunginae in order to facilitate the extension of rubber plantings. As the major proportion of land through which this road leads is unpopulated the people of the abovenamed villages considered that it would be alright for them to settle alongside the road and then to be able to collect the rubber. However, things are not that simple. Originally it was planned to construct a vehicular road to Kingerum Patrol Post (40 miles) which would pass through Kunginae. Five miles of good road has already been completed from Kiunga but it stops abruptly. A little while later a representation from the concerned villages was made to the ADC at Kiunga asking for clarification of the matter. It was then decided that if they themselves built the road with assistance if requested rubber would be issued to them. It was explained to them that an all weather link was essential if the rubber extension was to be feasible. Immediately the villages uprooted en masse and began clearing and building the new villages complexes. The owners of these tracts of land, who come from other villages, agreed upon letting them move onto their land. At the time of the patrol the construction of the villages was in full swing.

by whom?

by whom?

It is acknowledged that in the future there will be strong possibilities of land tenure arguments. The Awir fashion of land ownership is based upon a loose pattern of patrilineal clanage and sub-clanage. A man may own land because of his membership in a certain clan whose traditional rights have been over a certain tract of land. Usually he invites members of other clans to help him utilize it. However, the overall pattern descends from ancient ownership by one man who claims that this tract of land is his. Another man claimed that another tract of land was his and so on. The patrilineal descendants of him all inherited a certain portion of the original tract and so on through each generation. This balance was often upset through tribal and group warring whereupon a lineage may lose the rights of most of the land and be absorbed into another lineage. Generally there were and still are no fast and hard rules pertaining to ownership and the clan system was unstable and not always a good method. As the Awir people are not keen gardeners and there is an abundance of unused land the land tenure system is loose and the ownership of most parcels of land is determined by whatever special factors concern a certain parcel and arriving at a special agreement.

The following questions should be answered. Since the building of the road has been commenced - even if only in a small way - will these people eventually get rubber? What steps are going to be taken in defining the ownership of the land in question and how is the land going to be distributed among the "squatters"? What assistance will the administration offer in the construction of the road? These are important points and should be considered deeply.

(4)

MIGRATIONS (contd)

Here is a list of the current owners of the land in question:

GRIENJAS(etc)	Owned by	TUTU	of	Mepu	Village.
GI(etc)	" "	TERJE	of	Niasouae	Village.
TIONRAE(etc)	" "	GIMKIOK	of	Gre	Village
APKOMRAE(etc)	" "	"	and	TERE	of Mepu Village.
GRE(etc)	" "	"			

These owners are only in possession of the land on which the new village groups have built up. The new groups have still retained possession of the land of which the old villages and gardens its gardens remain.

CONCLUSION

As this was the writers first patrol in the area and since it was of short duration most topics have not been fully reported upon.

The council elections were conducted as outlined in patrol instructions and from "Directions for the Conduct of Elections for Local Government Councils". The election processes were carried out without a hitch.

Para 8 (III) of the patrol instructions has been attended to and the statistics forwarded some time ago.

A shotgun registrar is attached as an appendix. The new Firearms Ordinance was explained and apparently understood.

There were no serious civil complaints brought forward to the patrol and consequently there were no courts delegated to the ADC at Kiunga.

The meeting of the Kiunga Buyers Society on the 22nd February was publicised.

.....

3

Appendix A

SHOFSUN REGISTRAR

VILLAGE	NAME	SAP	CON	EXPIRES	MAKE	MODEL	NO	O/R
SOGOROM	Ukan Mus	57271	-	14/4/67	Topper	158	32797	32698
"	Memai Kipsinai	57273	-	13/1/67	"	158	32778	32700
"	Ongae Honi	57272	-	13/1/67	"	158	32809	33001
"	Non Dengan	-	-	13/4/67	"	158	32802	32699
TUPENSOMRAE	Tetoi Asa	-	19307	13/2/68	Astra	Cielo	37411	48607
GIPONAI	Woa Swanai	19305	-	5/2/68	Coocy	840	76617	48605
Kem Swanai	-	-	19306	6/2/68	Astra	Cielo	22382	49195
"	Skita Suate	-	19309	13/2/68	Coocy	840	76348	48610
GRUPSOMRAE	Seronai Tikan	57152	-	-	Winchester	-	76612	-
TMINGONDOK	Awa Gro	-	*	22/11/68	Winchester	-	76715	49178
DRYIDEMASUK	Sam Wingen	-	*	12/12/67	Winchester	-	141487	49190
"	Giaka Tire	-	*	16/12/67	Topper	158	V32811	49191
"	Suake Dai'i	57277	-	14/4/67	Topper	158	32865	-
"	Sondua Wai	57276	-	13/4/67	Topper	158	32873	-
GURSEMIL	Kiwai Woma	-	12214	8/12/67	Coocy	-	76358	49189
"	Balange Kukin	-	*	2/12/67	Coocy	-	76346	49188
MIASOMRAE	GIMKI Om	-	811	5/10/67	Winchester	137	141223	49135
"	Sawon Riore	-	19304	3/2/68	Coocy	840	32816	48604
"	Tekwen Retin	-	9957	29/7/67	Coocy	37	-	49124
"	Duo Ginae	-	998	25/9/67	Coocy	-	76716	49125
WISUAMENGRE	Kwani Jagu	-	808	5/10/67	Coocy	840	76697	49132
TIOMRAE	Dupe Kin	-	1000	29/7/67	Winchester	-	76601	49127
GI	Berianae Honai	-	19302	30/1/68	Stevens	940	MX26	48602
SOMALBININKIA	Diawa Kaba	-	*	24/11/67	Topper	152	32794	49180
GRIENGAS	Gvom Namai	-	1001	29/7/67	Winchester	-	125342	49128
"	Sukanai Hori	-	999	29/7/67	Winchester	-	-	49126
SOMALIDEMASUK	Sawon Riore	-	19304	3/2/67	Coocy	840	76613	48604

* Designates that the owner is in the possession of a Certificate of Registration but however the number is unknown.
 This registrar covers only those villages visited during the course of Kiunga Patrol N02/66-67.

2

REPORT ON RP & KGC

Appendix B

11220 Const. GOIA

Apparently his first patrol but acquitted himself well and could develop into a good patrol policeman. Cheerful.

11345 Trainee/Const. GEWO

Well versed in patrol procedures and at all times helpful.

REPORT ON INTERPRETER

SIMIK TETRA.

Speaks Mikim (Aven) language, Pidgen and Motu. A sulky type and tends to be moody but does have his brighter moments. A reasonable interpreter.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. Kiunga No4/66-67

Patrol Conducted by JC Edgar CPO

Area Patrolled MOIAN & SOUTH OK-TEDI Census Divisions

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans -

Natives 1 interpreter, 2RP&NGC, DIES projectionist (part)

Duration—From 3/4/1967 to 21/4/1967

Number of Days 16 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 11/1966

Medical ?/19.....

Map Reference Army T5C4 Blucher Range & Raggi

Objects of Patrol Census, compile H of A common role, advise of border survey, general administration.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

.....
District Commissioner

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

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

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

.....
.....
.....

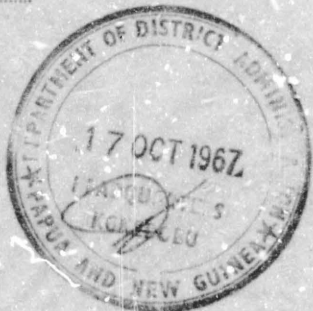
67. 3. 32 2y



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams
Our Reference..... 67-5-1
If calling ask for
Mr..... RAC.CMC.....

Department of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.



9th October, 1967.

The Director,
Dept. of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

KIUNGA PATROL REPORT 4/66-67.

The above report, together with full covering remarks by the Assistant District Commissioner, KIUNGA, is forwarded for your consideration.

I concur with Mr. Sage's remarks. Mr. Edgar has done a good job generally, and this report is an indication of his continued interest, and enthusiasm.

R.A. Calcutt
(R.A. CALCUTT.)
a/ DEPUTY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-district Office,
KIUNGA.

Mr. J. Edgar,
C/- Administrative College,
KONEDOBU.

67-5-1

MPS:mps

Sub-District Office,
Western District,
KIUNGA.

23rd. July, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
Rept. of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.

KIUNGA PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 1966/67.

MOIAN and SOUTH OK-TEDI CENSUS DIVISIONS.

Mr. J.C. EDGAR, CADET PATROL OFFICER.

Enclosed is Mr. Edgar's Patrol report covering a combined patrol to the MOIAN and SOUTH OK-TEDI census Divisions. As Mr. Edgar states the purpose of the patrol was census, compilation of the Census Roll as a result of that census and to prepare the people for the joint Australian-Indonesian Border Survey.

2. Despite Mr. Edgar's assertions that the people are rather primitively minded they were considered the most money conscious and sophisticated people in the area administered by KIUNGA. However, while they still do not, seemingly as a matter of principle, engage in station labour their attainments in regard to rubber on an individual basis is less than their AWIN counterparts.
3. Mr. Edgar has been the unofficial Council Adviser ever since Mr. P. Parnwell's resignation. His comments concerning the Council, although not strictly accurate, are based on his experiences as Adviser.
4. The Council, to date, has been somewhat depressing, i.e. it took three meetings in which to pass the Tax Rule; the first was abandoned due to the non arrival of Councillors, the second meeting was "boycotted" in its entirety by the majority of the YUNGGUM's and the Rule was finally passed when all, or at least a fair majority, condescended to attend.
5. This is not to say that the Council does not have the potential for success as the people have proved in their attempts to secure rubber that they are hardworking and willing when they set their minds to a task; it is just purely and simply inadequate supervision in an area that badly needs direction.
6. The 22 Councillors are not really disgruntled and frustrated, they are more in an untenable situation in that they have been promised and cajoled their people into clearing land and changing village sites in order to obtain economic development in the form of rubber and this has not been forthcoming.
7. Other than D.A.S.F. the Administration is so engaged in running its own affairs, i.e. station management and agency functions, that it has no time for experienced officers to give the people the advice and lead they are waiting for.
8. Rubber is expanding but so are its associated problems that

are caused by Deen Agriculture staff who are not fully aware of the problems of the area i.e., land tenure and dissatisfaction caused by a supply of "promised rubber".

9. If this area is to reach its full potential, it is imperative that it receive much closer attention by more senior staff than Adet Patrol Officers.

10. Although Mr. Edgar has painted a somewhat bleak picture of the area it is nevertheless a good and searching report for a junior Officer.

For your information,

H.P.C. Sage

(H.P.C. Sage)
D/ ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. Mr. J.C. Edgar, Adet Patrol Officer, KIUPSA

16

STATION: Kiunga

SUB-DISTRICT: Kiunga

DISTRICT: Western

PATROL NO: No 4 of 66-67

CONDUCTED BY: JC Edgar CFC

AREA PATROLLED: Moian & South Ok-Tedi Census Divisions

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING: 1 interpreter
2 RP/NuG
1 DIES Projectionist (part)

DURATION OF PATROL: 3/4/67 - 6/4/67
10/4/67 - 21/4/67
16 days

LAST PATROL: DDA 11/66, No 1 of 66-67

OBJECTS OF PATROL: Census, compilation of House of Assm.
Common Roll, advising of the border
survey in May, general administration.

MAP REFERENCE: Army Series T504 of Blucher Range &
Raggi. Patrol Map.

JR Edgar
(JC Edgar)
Cadet Patrol Officer

PATROL DIARY

April 3, 1967. 1135 departed Kiunga downstream by canoe (35hp) and towing tradewind dinghy (20hp). 1240 arrived at the mouth of the Moian Creek however the level of the water was insufficient for the powered canoe, towed by the dinghy and arrived at PUIN-MOIAN3 at 1325. Projectionists gear set up and the assembled people advised of the joint Australian-Indonesian border survey during May. A selection of DIES films shown at night. At PUIN-MOIAN3.

- 4 0745 census called, thence careful housing inspection and discussions on general topics. Departed at 1110 by paddling as overnight the level of the creek had fallen drastically and many snags were in evidence. 1230 Fly River reached and proceeded down-stream under power. 1315 the mouth of the Moian1 creek reached and proceeded up under power for 15 minutes. Gear unloaded and carted overland to the village. 1445 census called, talks on the border survey and housing inspection. Film gear set up and films shown at night. At MOIAN1.
- 5 0800 departed for MOIAN2 arriving 1 hour 35 minutes later over a reasonable track. Census, border talks, village inspection and general discussions. Arrived back at MOIAN1 at 1420. Meanwhile the canoe had departed with gear, one constable and the projectionist to KAWOK. Self, interpreter and one constable departed for KAWOK in the dinghy arriving at 1640. Film gear set up and films shown at night. At KAWOK.
- 6 Census, border talks and housing inspection. Departed downstream for ELEKTA at 1125. 1230 message dropped from aircraft from the ADC requesting that the patrol return back to Kiunga. Self and constable returned by dinghy arriving at 1445, canoe 1/2 hour later. At Kiunga.
- 10 1110 departed Kiunga downstream by canoe with dinghy and arrived at NIOGOMBAN 3 hours later, the few people that were there were told to go to ELEKTA for census. Arrived at ELEKTA at 1425. Gear carted overland to the village along a muddy track. General talks about the rubber and other items. At ELEKTA.
- 11 Census called for the villages of ELEKTA, ANGAMARUT, GERUMUNDARI, IOWI, and NIOGOMBAN who have for recent years resided at ELEKTA. Assembly advised of the border survey during May thence a careful housing was carried out. Departed downstream for Membok at 1210 by canoe and arrived at the Membok canoe place at 1715. Camp made and slept the night.
- 12 Departed downstream for MABADUAN via the dinghy and arrived 65 minutes later at 0910. Census, border talks and general discussions. Returned upstream for 20 minutes and entered the Binge River and 30 minutes later arrived at KUKUJABA. Census, border talks etc. No complaints. Returned upstream for the Membok canoe place arriving at 1705. Meanwhile two constables with carriers had departed for MEMBOK. Self and interpreter arrived at the village after 1 hour and 1/2 walk. At MEMBOK.

- 27
- 13 Morning occupied with census, border talks, village inspection and general discussions. 1330 departed for KAREMGU arriving 40 minutes later. Census etc. 1725 departed back for Membok. At MEMBOK.
 - 14 Departed MEMBOK for canoe place at 0645. Gear loaded into the canoe and returned upstream for ELEKTA at 0915, arriving 5 hours later. Self and one constable departed for Kiunga in dinghy in order to get extra fuel; the canoe with interpreter and one constable departed for KAWOK where they overnighted. Arrived at Kiunga at 1915.
 - 15 Departed Kiunga with 44 of fuel at 0945 arriving at KAWOK at 1140. Lunched and departed for BONGUBON on the Ok-Tedi River at 1315 arriving 2 1/2 hours later. Most of the village people were present so talks were given on the border survey and general topics.
 - 16 Sunday - observed at BONGOBUN.
 - 17 Census etc for the BONGOBEN village group. 1110 departed for YERAN on an extremely low river and had some difficulty crossing the rapids near the village itself. Settled in at YERAN at 1240 and census etc commenced at 1430. Meanwhile the river had been rising drastically and would now be sufficient for safe dinghy travel upstream. At YERAN.
 - 18 Departed for KOMOKPIN on semi-flood river with dinghy(20) at 0745. Constables Muliap and Togogo departed with carrier line for IOGI arriving same at 1215. Self and interpreter arrived IOGI at 0855 - reasonably brief stopover and thence departed KOMOKPIN on an extremely flood river, arriving 2 1/2 hours later. Census, border talks etc. Departed downstream at 1515, the trip downtaking only 25 minutes. The night spent at IOGI.
 - 19 Morning occupied with census etc at IOGI. Lunched and thence departed downstream for DOME the trip taking only 10 minutes. Afternoon occupied with duties at DOME and associated villages. AT DOME.
 - 20 The two constables departed downstream at 0730 with lashed canoes carrying the patrol gear. Self and interpreter stayed on about another 2 hours to discuss migrations and other matters of local importance. 1010 to YERAN arriving 40 minutes later - simultaneously with constables. Gear loaded onto the canoe and departed for ARAN 2 arriving at 1240. Afternoon occupied with census and other duties. At ARAN 2.
 - 21 Houseing inspection of village and thence a short walk to the mission station at ATKAMBA to have discussions with MR R Nowland. Departed for Kiunga at 1145; arriving KAWOK 2 hours later. Insufficient fuel left for canoe and dinghy so Constable and dinghy dispatched to Kiunga to obtain the same. Returned 1710 and in canoe arrived at Kiunga at 2040.

INTRODUCTION

The main aim of the patrol was to call a full normal census in order to compile an up to date common roll for the 1968 House of Assembly elections. Informative talks were given at each village advising of the joint Australian-Indonesian border survey during May. Other duties performed were assisting Local Government Councillors in enforcing the Kiunga Council Hygiene Rule, screening DIES films, attending to minor complaints and discussing local affairs in general.

Two census divisions were patrolled - the MOIAN and the SOUTH-OK-TEDI. The MOIAN includes that area south of Kiunga stretching down as far as halfway in the bulge where the Fly River forms the West Irian border while the SOUTH OK-TEDI comprises those villages living in the southern section of the Ok-Tedi River. The Moian area is flat and swampy and most of the villages are in close proximity to the Fly River - northwards the Ok-Tedi area gradually becomes more hilly with small, sharp, undefined ridges and the Ok-Tedi River consequently is faster flowing and more hazardous to navigate in its upper reaches. The entire is covered with thick rain forest with poor soils and high rainfall.

The tribal group of the entire area are the Yungumms - a large group who are more numerous in West Irian than in Papua. They are still a rather primitively minded people who live in a subsistence state. A reasonable percentage of the men have worked out of the district either at Port Moresby or in West Irian on the oilfields and at Merauke. Educational attainments are poor - rarely rising above the primary level and restricted to the young adults and children.

OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION

The level of development in the area is almost nonexistent and the economy of the entire area is based upon subsistence agriculture. Consequently, the urge of the bush for the village man is strong - probably spends about three-quarters of his lifetime gardening, hunting and gathering in the bush and the remainder occupied with sleeping in the village.

The obvious way to end this sorry state of affairs is to give them something worthwhile to do. Suggestions would be Local Government Councils, agricultural schemes and the like. These things would then provide them an outlet and an opportunity to raise themselves out of the subsistence state, provide an economy with a cash basis and improve the social welfare of their lot.

However, these people are inside a local government council and they are participating in a serious and large rubber scheme.

The people fully appreciate the principles of the local government movement but living in such a low income area they can see that the council can do little to help them. Herein, lies their basic fault - they do not consider how they themselves can help the council. As a result the Kiunga Local Government Council comprises 22 disgruntled and frustrated councillors, the people awaiting the council to perform miracles for them and a frustrated overseas advisor. The council would financially collapse if it was not for large doses of administration monetary aid - and the council area can hardly support a higher tax rate than the present rate \$1.50 - males, 50c donation - females.

The equipment of Kiunga on the other side - and it seems that most of these problems were nonexistent even taking into consideration that their transport system were roads alone. These people on the Ok-Tedi are interrelated to the people on the other side and what it really boils down to is that the Kiunga station is understaffed and overworked.

INTRODUCTION

The main aim of the patrol was to call a full formal census in order to compile an up to date common roll for the 1958 House of Assembly elections. Informative talks were given at each village advising of the joint Australian-Indonesian border survey during May. Other duties performed were assisting Local Government Councillors in enforcing the Kiunga Vouncil Hygiene Rule, screening DIES films, attending to minor complaints and discussing local affairs in general.

Two census divisions were patrolled - the MOIAN and the SOUTH-OK-TEDI. The MOIAN includes that area south of Kiunga stretching down as far as halfway in the bulge where the Fly River forms the West Irian border while the SOUTH OK-TEDI comprises those villages living in the southern section of the Ok-Tedi River. The Moian area is flat and swampy and most of the villages are in close proximity to the Fly River - northwards the Ok-Tedi area gradually becomes more hilly with small, sharp, undefined ridges and the Ok-Tedi River consequently is faster flowing and more hazardous to navigate in its upper reaches. The entire is covered with thick rain forest with poor soils and high rainfall.

The tribal group of the entire area are the Yungumms - ~~axx~~ large group who are more numerous in West Irian than in Papua. They are still a rather primitively minded people who live in a subsistence state. A reasonable percentage of the men have worked out of the district either at Port Moresby or in West Irian on the oilfields and at Merauke. Educational attainments are poor - rarely rising above the primary level and restricted to the young adults and children.

OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION

The level of development in the area is almost nonexistent and the economy of the entire area is based upon subsistence agriculture. Consequently, the urge of the bush for the village man is strong - probably spends about three-quarters of his lifetime gardening, hunting and gathering in the bush and the remainder occupied with sleeping in the village.

The obvious way to end this sorry state of affairs is to give them something worthwhile to do. Suggestions would be Local Government Councils, agricultural schemes and the like. These things would then provide them an outlet and an opportunity to raise themselves out of the subsistence state, provide an economy with a cash basis and improve the social welfare of their lot.

However, these people are inside a local government council and they are participating in a serious and large rubber scheme.

The people fully appreciate the principles of the local government movement but living in such a low income area they can see that the council can do little to help them. Herein, lies their basic fault - they do not consider how they themselves can help the council. As a result the Kiunga Local Government Council comprises 22 disgruntled and frustrated councillors, the people awaiting the council to perform miracles for them and a frustrated overseas advisor. The council would financially collapse if ~~it was~~ not for large doses of administration monetary aid - and the council area can hardly support a higher tax rate than the present rate \$1.50 - males, 50c donation - females.

5

OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION (contd)

The council can do little in an area like this with its transportation problems and lack of resources. At the most the council will be only able to provide limited welfare services - developmental schemes will be beyond its capacity. The council is also at a disadvantage because of tribal antagonisms as reported in Kiunga Patrol No2-66/67. The same situation still prevails regarding council affairs as in this same report.

Rubber extension has also created its own special problems which will be reported under another heading.

Apart from rubber troubles, the area is reasonably quiet and the council would be the only thing from which discontent springs.

Border affairs are static and need no reporting.

No serious civil complaints were heard which warranted judicial action at Kiunga.

THE KIUNGA RUBBER SCHEME

The basis of this scheme were explained in Kiunga Patrol No2-66/67. The two census divisions patrolled are also included in this scheme; firstly the MOIAN Census Division.

Blocks and plantings have been completed at the three MOIAN villages, KAWOK and a nursery has been planted at KAREMGU which will supply the remaining villages in the area. The seedlings at KAREMGU are progressing well and should be ready for planting in the next couple of months. On the whole rubber extension in this area is progressing well and there should be few problems considering that the Fly River will be used as the transport link.

However, the picture in the SOUTH OK-TEDI area is completely different. The problem in this area is transport - the Ok-Tedi River is not reliable and its further reaches rather dangerous for regular outboard transport. As a result extension in this area has been left until the more favourable areas have been planted. Again, it has been hard for the village people to understand such reasoning and there has been considerable village migration to the river in order to collect rubber and participate in the scheme. Movements are:

DOME - KWEMAN, OT new site on the OkTedi.
WUKBID - WORAN, TIMIN close to Dome.
IOGI - IOGI, MARAPKA 1 on the old site of Iogi.

These new villages have been in use for about six months and really at the most they are only temporary places until the time comes when they will collect the rubber or have been given the official go-ahead. They were under the assumption that if they moved close to the river they would be given rubber immediately - however because of the serious shortage of rubber stumps at Kiunga they are still waiting. Naturally, they are starting to wonder whether they will ever get rubber at all. In addition to this land disputes have arisen mainly over the use of garden land and sago swamps. All in all - not a very healthy situation considering that they have been waiting for well over six months and there seems to be little likelihood that they will get any during this year at all. A sobering thought is that during the Dutch Administration a thriving rubber scheme was in operation at Mindiptanah - moreover the equivalent of Kiunga on the other side - and it seems that most of these problems were non-existent even taking into consideration that their transport system were roads alone. These people on the Ok-Tedi are interrelated to the people on the other side and what it really boils down to is that the Kiunga station is understaffed and overworked.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

The sole economic resource of the area is crocodile skins. Of course this is a very erratic business now that the crocs are becoming scarce and becoming more difficult to find. Also, of course, hunting for crocodiles can be a difficult business and one dependant upon river conditions, and when the price for skins drops below a certain level it no longer is worth the effort to obtain the skins. This is the situation in the area at the present. The Kiunga Buyers Society is the purchasing party in the area and its prices for skins are not altogether too high for several reasons. The skins that the village people bring in are not generally big and of a high quality - the buying price of the Society is governed by the erratic sales in Daru wherin skins may lay in the warehouse for several weeks of even months before they are sold and by such time they have lost much of their "freshness". This dampening effect upon the business has resulted in fewer skins being offered for sale and at the same time has cut out the area's only basic source of income.

The Kiunga Buyers Society is at present weathering through a tough period mainly because of transport difficulties. This means that stores ordered months ago take along time in arriving at Kiunga and in the case of foodstuffs like rice, arrive in a virtual inedible state. The situation should be rectified in the near future when ~~the~~ a new boat which is at present being built in Australia should arrive in the Western District. The construction of this boat is being financed by the three societies inside the district.

Little else is carried on inside the area - perhaps the occasional sale of fresh food to the Administration at Kiunga as well as the Mission.

CENSUS

The figures are self explanatory and need little comment. However, it may be noticed that some villages are "dying out" and while some others are "building up". This will probably eventuate that the smaller villages will be swallowed up by the larger ones - a rather desirable effect from an administrative point of view. As remarked earlier some of the villages in the South Ok-Tedi Census Division have migrated to form new villages and combine with some existing ones. In the MOIAN Census Division over the last three of four years most of the smaller villages have settled in the larger ones mainly because of the need to form stronger political units. These are:

<u>Old</u> (as listed in the H of A village domicile)	<u>New</u>
EREKTA	
ANGAMARUT	
GEREMUNDARI	
IOWI	
NIOGOMBAN	EREKTA
KAREMGU	
KUIU	
UWAN	KAREMCU
GAMO	KUKIJABA
KAWOK	KAWOK
MABADUAN	MABADUAN
UNGERUM 1	
UNGERUM 2	MEMBOK

CENSUS (contd)

MOIAN 3	EUROA
PUIN	
MOIAN 1	MOIAN 1
MOIAN 2	MOIAN 2

The common role for the 1968 House of Assembly has been compiled from these latest census figures in conjunction with the Council Tax sheets.

BORDER SURVEY

At all census centres comprehensive talks were given, advising the populace of the joint AUSTRALIAN - INDONESIAN border survey to be commencing in May. It was explained how this was to be done, by what methods and the modes of transport to be used.

Of course, since these people own tribal lands on both sides of the border and their relations as well live in West Irian, the positioning of concrete markers at certain intervals on the actual border will be of nil importance to the populace.

MISSIONS

In the MOIAN Census Division the Montfort Catholic Mission based at Kiunga is the predominate religious body. They have ~~two~~ schools with local teachers - ELEKTA - KAREMGU - MEMBOK. These are typical mission village schools but I presume they are better than having no schools at all. This mission is an affluent one with a seemingly unending source of finance. They own a lot of equipment and plant - aircraft, boats, sawmill, outboard engines etc. Amongst the people there is not a strong loyalty to the mission as opposed to the UFM mission at Atkamba in the SOUTH OK-TEDI Division.

This mission is a poor one but seems to have the trust of the local populace - the missionaries there are not as aloof as their counterparts at Kiunga. All UFM missionaries are usually fluent in the language of the area in which they are stationed.

The specialities of both missions are education and health services, both essential and badly needed in the area.

TRANSPORT

As can be seen by the patrol diary extensive use was made of river travel by means of powered canoes and dinghys. Apart from this method nothing exists except usually rough bush tracks crisscrossing regularly swamps and patches of sago stands.

HEALTH

The standard of health in the area is only average. Skin diseases like grille and other fungus infections are very common. TB is rather serious as can be exemplified by the number of people from this area currently at the Daru Hospital undergoing treatment. Elephantitis is also a common disease. The causes for these diseases could be attributed to the bad diet - staple sago - and the hot moist climate.

31

SUMMARY

~~XXXX~~ Basically this area is depressed because of many factors namely: The adverse climate.

: The low lying, swampy topography.

: The lack of transport routes except maybe river travel which usually means a heavy capital outlay in the form of boats and outboard engines.

: The sparse population and the relatively long distances between villages.

: The lack of any economic resource except maybe the crocodile but this is dying trade.

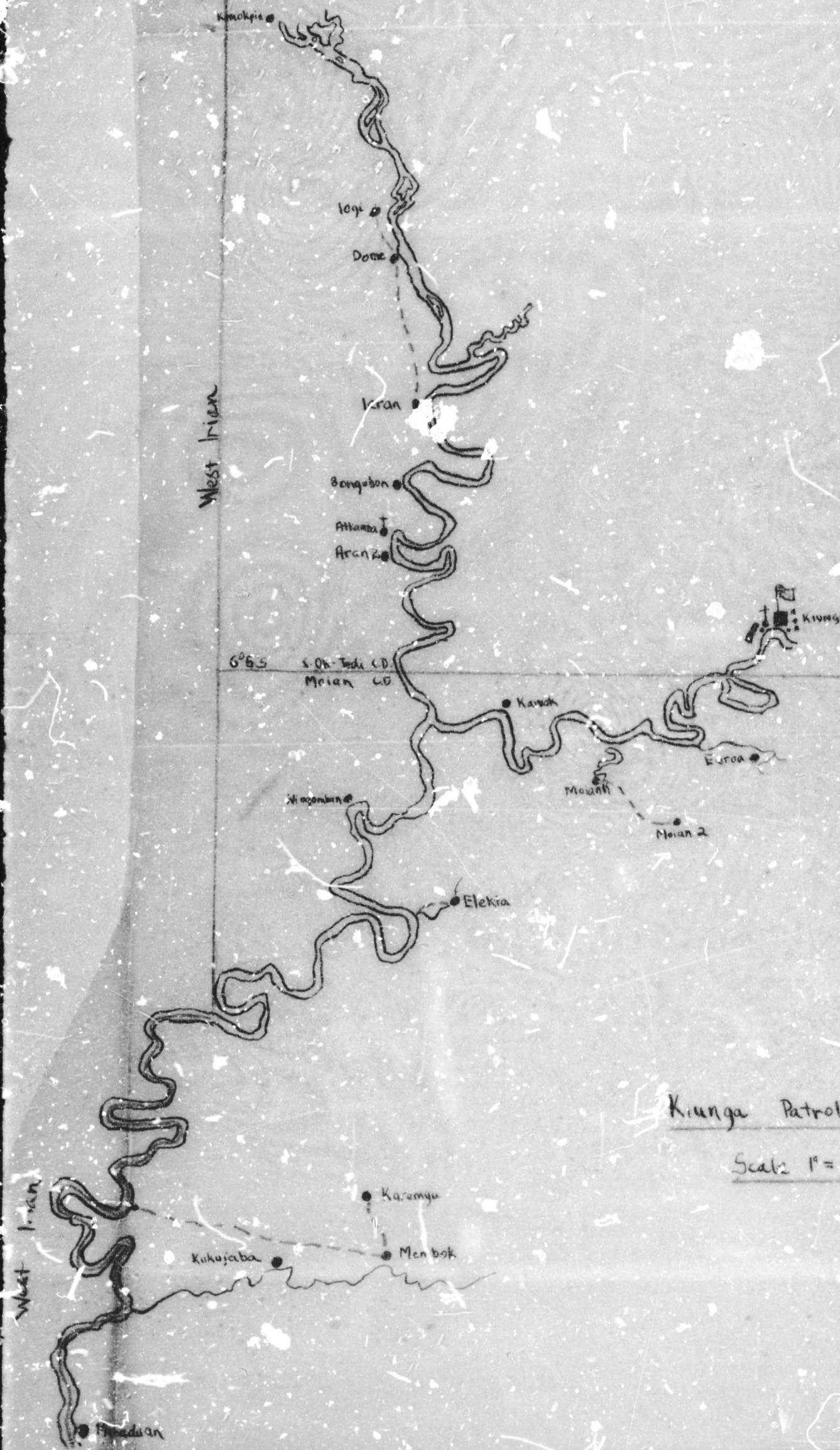
: The unskilled people.

Other problems : The failure of the Local Government Council to arouse the area and become a force in local affairs.

; The disinterest and lassitude of the people.

This paints rather a ~~grim~~ black future for the people and their area. There is, however, the one comforting feature. Rubber.

At the present time rubber plantings have only recently commenced and it will be several more years until the benefits of it will be felt. It is hoped that this scheme will grow smoothly, provide a regular cash income and establish firm village communities. This will probably mean that the Council will grow alongside with the development of the rubber - and grow financially stronger.



Kiunga Patrol No. 166-67

Scale 1" = 4 miles.

4/67



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. Kiunga No 5/1966-67

Patrol Conducted by JC Edgar CPO

Area Patrolled South & East Awin Census Divisions

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans -

Natives 2 RPENGC 1 interpreter

Duration—From 27./5./1967 to 17./6./1967 (broken)

Number of Days 20

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services/..1../1967..

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

Map Reference Army Series T504 of Blucher and Raggi

Objects of Patrol Census, Compilation of Common Roll, General Administration

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

9/10/1967

J. Holmes
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- 33



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams.....
Our Reference... 67-5-2
If calling ask for RAC.CMC.
Mr.....



Department of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.

9th October, 1967.

The Director,
Dept of District Administration,
KONEDOBUBU.

KIUNGA PATROL REPORT - 5/66-67.

Please find herewith original of the above report, submitted by Cadet Patrol Officer, J.C. EDGAR, together with covering memo from the Assistant District Commissioner, KIUNGA.

2. Mr. EDGAR's absence at the Administrative College and his subsequent transfer from the District will preclude me from requesting a personal explanation as to his failure to properly conduct the census revision. Possibly there are factors, unknown to Mr. Sage or myself, which make this failure a reasonable one. Would you follow this up in PORT MORESBY, please.

3. The Kiunga Council has suffered from a "Cultist" approach, in which its members expected the working of miracles in regard to political and economic development principally the latter. Very little idea of self-help exists, the members expecting the Administration to give them crops, roads, guidance, market facilities, transport and so on. Naturally, the non-realization of these hopes has caused a certain frustration, a frustration which only time and patient explanation can dispel.

4. The rubber scheme will only be a practical proposition if:-
(a) Transport, heavily subsidised, is available.
(b) Problems of land tenure and resettlement are solved, and
(c) Sufficient supervisory staff is available for all stages of the resettlement, planting, processing, transport and marketing programme.

To my mind, none of the above are available now, or are likely to be in the foreseeable future. Certain limited suggestions have been advanced, but all have flaws, e.g.

(a) Backloading on Administration vessels. We run one trawler (scow) a month to Kiunga and Lake Murray. With proposed plantings at 2000 acres at Kiunga, 300 acres at Lake Murray, and 500 acres at Atkamba, producing a monthly total of about 100 tons of processed rubber, we have to look elsewhere for transport. The co-operatives will have a vessel of c. 20 tons capacity, otherwise commercial shipping at rates of \$40.00 a ton Daru/Kiunga will have to be used. Freight rates Daru/Moresby will have to be used, and will add a further \$16.00 a ton. Handling and insurance charges will be an extra cost. While vessels are not presently available for the Daru/Kiunga leg, it is expected they will be once rubber production commences, and markets for imported trade goods, foods and other consumer items

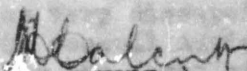
13/1

exist, but the costs are excessive.

- (b) Some 2,800 acres, in numerous locations, need to be the subject of a tenure conversion and/or resettlement scheme. Western District DDA and DASF staff levels preclude this.
- (c) The implications for the World Bank recommendations on economic development are that neither staff or resources will be made available by the central Administration.

5. Certain considerations of a political nature, in relation to progress across the 141st meridian, may well force some relaxation of the strictures imposed by the World Bank report. Political and economic development in the Kiunga, Atkamba, Ningerum and Lake Murray areas cannot be allowed completely to stagnate. For the sake of the Western District, and its hopeful primary producers such as they are, this reasoning may give the project added weight.

6. Mr. Edgar has again produced a good report, and were it not for his finagling with census figures, one which would be deserving of commendation.


(R. A. CALCUTT.)
a/ DEPUTY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. The District Agriculture Officer, DARU.
Assistant District Commissioner, KIUNGA.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

File 117-5-1

Department of District Administration,
Western District,
Sub-District Office,
KIUNGA.

28th. August, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
Dept. of District Administration,
Western District,
DARU.

KIUNGA PATROL REPORT No. 5/1966-67

SOUTH and EAST AWIN CENSUS DIVISIONS

Mr. J.C. EDGAR, CADET PATROL OFFICER

Mr. Edgar's report is a fair and accurate survey of the area based on good powers of observation.

POLITICAL SITUATION.

Local Government has been very disappointing, especially to Mr. Edgar, who has been acting as the Council Advisor. The Councillors themselves are very weak but when they are faced with a wall of apathy from their people there is little they can do.

Threats to resign by Councillors, as mentioned by Mr. Edgar, are becoming common but I fear this is more an attempt to persuade the Administration to give more backing to the individual Councillor than it now is. "Resignations" are quickly withdrawn when acceptance seems likely.

The Council system of Wards has had repercussions in regard to the KIUNGA Rubber Scheme. Groups of villages that have no other cultural or anthropological ties but because of Population or location formed a single Ward with one representative Councillor have uprooted all their old trees and now live in new composite villages under the jurisdiction of a single Councillor. Some of these composite villages are now two days walk away from their old sites and are now established on land belonging to totally unrelated clans who have given them unofficial squatters right. They intend to plant rubber on these untitled lands and have moved there expressly for the purpose.

The Council has suffered through lack of supervising staff. With KIUNGA staff consisting of only the A.D.C. and one Cadet since the beginning of June the workload has not permitted the ADC to act in his true capacity as Advisor to the Council which he is in name only. While Mr. Edgar has done well in this capacity his inexperience in this field has not allowed the Council to realize its full, although limited, potential. It has, to a large degree, become merely a meeting place rather than an organisation from which is stemming sound ideas and a centralised driving force for the people.

I see no point in a crash programme of Local Government education as suggested by Mr. Edgar as until the staff position improves or finances become adequate it is difficult to put what are normal suggestions at this sort of meeting into effect.

KIUNGA RUBBER SCHEME

In 1965 I commented that if a realistic approach was to be considered the KIUNGA-RUMGINAE road was not feasible if only hand labour was used. Since then fourteen villages from outlying areas have moved onto the road site between RUMGINAE and KIUNGA. Their sole purpose was that they were told that those who did not have access would not be considered for rubber and this was the peoples solution to this. However, despite much vocalism, and the addition of a further five hundred people, over the past year and nine months there has been no further work done on the road. The most northern section, the people in the RUMGINAE area, under an energetic Councillor, are working well but unfortunately to no avail if the middle and southern sections are doing little. Rubber for this area is dependent upon the road being completed and although a rubber nursery is scheduled to be started within a very short time even this incentive has produced no concrete results. The people are supreme optimists and are adamant that they will receive rubber whether or not they are prepared to build a road or not. They are obviously expecting the Administration to do the major part but nevertheless with their meagre manpower resources will work hard at it if well directed.

COMMERCE and INDUSTRY.

With crocodile skins becoming scarcer/and or people not willing to hunt them, the KIUNGA Buyer's Society is becoming more and more a straight out consumer society, largely for the benefit of Administration employees.

CENSUS

The Census was badly done and in one case the Patrol Diary is a fabrication as while the Common Roll was prepared from the Local Government Council Electoral Rolls a census revision was not conducted.

The ex-NORTH AWIN villages of GI, MINABIRAE, TIOMRAI, GEBIKE, APKONRAE and ANTRIMSONRAE were not censused by either KIUNGA or NINGERUM in 1966-67. These people were incorporated into the KIUNGA Council in late 1965 but were still censused and patrolled from NINGERUM. In 1966 they migrated en-masse to their present sites along the KIUNGA-RUMGINAE road and have established new villages complete with housing, rest-houses and barracks. Although they still return to their old village sites to gather sago they are firmly established in the SOUTH AWIN Census Division. I do not know why Mr. Edgar did not census them (and he is not here for the asking) but can only deduce that as the census Sheets were not readily available he did not bother to do a full formal census. That Mr. Edgar was not aware of the situation is no excuse as he himself had conducted Council Elections for these same people at the same place some scant five months earlier.

As such Mr. Edgar's census figures are meaningless but an Appendix has been attached to this report consisting of the NINGERUM Patrol report No. 3/1965-66 figures which give an idea of the migration involved. This is not strictly accurate as no doubt a fair proportion of the elderly people who would not want to move down to KIUNGA would have migrated out to nearby NORTH AWIN Villages. I fear as a result of this discrepancy the entire KIUNGA Sub-District report figures for this year may be out by some 500 persons, as the villages concerned have been removed from the NORTH AWIN census Division and have not been included in the SOUTH AWIN where they have been living for well over a year.

The WEST AWIN villages of KWANKIA and MENENSORE are in the midst of migrating into the SOUTH AWIN census Division in order to join the KIUNGA Local Government Council, this being synonymous with obtaining rubber. In this case they do have traditional land in the area like their counterparts as mentioned above. These two villages were censused by NINGERUM in November 1966 and are not on Council Electoral

(3)

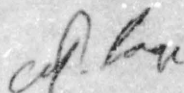
Holls . If they do decide to remain on this side of the OK HART River, as it seems they probably will in order to obtain rubber earlier than their NINGERUM counterparts , they will have to be put onto SOUTH AWIN books and removed from the WEST AWIN Census books at the next census.

While this report is concise in the aspects it deals with the major problems associated with land tenure; social disruptions due to political upheavals and mass migrations; the cultist image that the Council is taking in that it has become synonymous with rubber; and the fact that agriculture policy through staff shortages seems to be working in reverse (i.e. rubber will probably be issued first and then the land tenure will be looked into and finally access roads built) have not been adequately dealt with. This is no reflection upon Mr. Edgar as his experience has to date been very limited, but it does mean that it is absolutely necessary for an experienced Patrol Officer to be posted to this station so that the very situation that has developed in the SOUTH AWIN census Division can be examined and rectified. Although numerous patrols, both D.B.A. and D.A.S.F have visited this area this year I was not aware of the true extent of the situation until I myself visited it.

A report covering recommendations for the setting up of demarcation Committees is following.

Enclosed is Mr. Edgar's claim for camping Allowance, which, when processed, can be forwarded to him at the listed address.

For Your information,



(M.P.C. Sage)
a/ ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

cc. Mr. J.C. Edgar, Administrative College, PORT MORESBY.

91

STATION: Kiunga

SUB-DISTRICT: Kiunga

DISTRICT: Western

PATROL No: No5 of 66-67

CONDUCTED BY: JC Edgar CPO

AREA PATROLLED: South & East(part) Awin Census Divisions

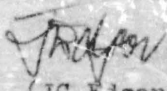
PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING: 1 interpreter
2 RP&NGC

DURATION OF PATROL: 27/5/67 - 5/6/67
9/6/67 - 17/6/67
20 days

LAST PATROL: DDA 1/67 No2 of 66-67

OBJECTS OF PATROL: CENSUS, Compilation of House of Assembly
Common Roll, general administration.

MAP REFERENCE: Army Series T504 of Blucher Range and
Raggi. Patrol Map.


(JC Edgar)
Cadet Patrol Officer

41

PATROL DIARY

May 27 Departed Kiunga per powered canoe (Merc35) with two constables and interpreter Simik. Arrived DRIMDEMASUK at 1515 - 1hr20min against high river. Inspection of the village rubber block - well kept. At DRIMDEMASUK.

28 Sunday - observed. General discussions with the village people on items of local interest. At DRIMDEMASUK.

29 Census called for the villages of DRIMDEMASUK and GOMSKAI, the Common Roll compiled and explained, Housing inspection with Councillor, general topics discussed. Departed upstream for GBERETMIN at 1230 arriving 40 min later. 1530 census called and other duties attended to. At CUERETMIN.

30 Departed upstream for TUPENSOMRAE at 0830 arriving 2hr40min later. General talks with the village people in the afternoon. A lot of talk on rubber. At TUPENSOMRAE.

31 Census called for the TUPENSOMRAE village group and other duties carried out. Departed at 1130 for DRIMSKAI on the Palmer River - navigation hazard due to many rock bars etc. Arrived at 1335 and messengers sent out to round up the people in the bush. At DRIMSKAI.

June 1 Census called for the people of URIME and SOME who have now combined to live at DRIMSKAI. Three families initially censused and other duties carried out. Headed upstream for 25min until the Wai Angu reached (Surprise Creek) and proceeded upstream under power until navigation was impossible - another 20 min. Returned to DRIMSKAI where patrol gear loaded and headed downstream to the Fly River to DRIMGAS. 30min walk from the river to the village. 1600 census called for the DRIMGAS village group. Other duties carried out - longwinded discussions on rubber. At DRIMGAS.

2 Departed downstream for TMINGONDOK at 1015 arriving 45 minutes later - many rock bars in evidence. 1500 census commenced for this village and various other duties carried out. At TMINGONDOK.

3 A DRIMGAS man reported a riot in his village last night - returned upstream to investigate while carrier line was despatched to GIPONAI. All facts were collected and the parties sent to Kiunga for court action. Departed downstream for GIPONAI arriving at 1530. Census and other duties carried at this village. At GIPONAI.

4 Departed at 0815 for GUSIORE on the Elevala River. Stopped at 0920 on the banks of the Elevala for a hunting expedition. Arrived at 1560. At GUSIORE.

5 Census called for this village - migrations in from SOME village on the Palmer River. Other duties also carried out. Departed for Kiunga at 1230 arriving at 1445. Patrol stood down.

June 9 Departed Kiunga with carrier line at 1030 for the GRIENGAS-SOMABINKIA village group situated 2 hours from Kiunga on the road leading to Rumginae. Afternoon occupied with discussing the forthcoming House of Assembly elections, village migrations and minor complaints. At GRIENGAS-SOMABINKIA.

10 Census called for this village group and Common Roll compiled. Walked to the next village groups approx 20 minutes and the patrol settled into the TIOMRAI-GREBIKE rest house and barracks. A general inspection was carried out of the three village groups concentrated here followed by a meeting of these people about the problems associated with the rubber scheme and migrations. At GREBIKE-TIOMRAI.

11 Sunday - compiling information regards rubber and general discussions with the village men.

12 Census called for the villages of GI, MINAEGIRAE, TIOMRAI, GREBIKE, APKOMRAE and ANTRIEMSOMAE. Late afternoon moved onto the WISUAMENGRE-GRUPSOMAE village group another 40 minutes further on. Night spent compiling the Common Roll. At WISUAMENGRE-GRUPSOMAE.

13 Census called for this village group and the Common Roll compiled. Discussions on rubber and migrations. Moved onto MIASOMAE-GRE 2 hours further on the road leading to Rumginae. At MIASOMAE-GRE.

14 Census called and the Common Roll compiled. Housing inspection - trouble about village pigs cleared up. Moved onto RALENGRE-GATUMSAN about 1 hour 20 minutes. Talks on rubber and the like. At RALENGRE-GATUMSAN.

15 Census called and the Common Roll compiled. Moved onto the Rumginae Mission station and thence onto BRIOMPENE half an hour from Rumginae. At BRIOMPENE.

16 Census and the Common Roll compiled for BRIOMPENE. Moved onto Rumginae and discussed with the Missioner in Charge, Mr. Tucker, local affairs. 1330 departed for WISUAMENGRE arriving 4 hours 15 minutes later. At WISUAMENGRE.

17 Departed for Kiunga arriving at 1150. Patrol stood down.

18 Departed Kiunga for TUINDEMASUK at 0900 arriving at 1015. Census called and the Common Roll compiled. Housing inspection and the settlement of a minor complaint. Returned to Kiunga the same day.

20 To MEPU by Land Rover where census called and the Common Roll compiled. Back to Kiunga.

21 To WADINRAE by Land Rover (1½ mls) where census called and the Common Roll compiled. Housing inspection.

INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of the patrol was to revise the village census in order to compile an accurate and up to date Common Roll for next year's House of Assembly elections.

Information was gathered regarding the latest developments in the migration of some of the Awin villages onto the road leading from Kiunga to the UFM Mission station at Rumginae. Rubber policy was explained. The boundaries of the proposed North Fly Open electorate was also explained and discussed. Routine duties were carried out also namely the settlement of minor complaints, inspection of village housing and grounds enforcing the Kiunga Local Government Council's Hygiene rule and the answering of village queries.

The South Awin Census Division could now be classified into two distinct areas - those villages on the Rumginae road and those villages located on the banks of the Fly River upstream from Kiunga.

On appearances the Awin people are rather unimpressive and one gains the impression that they consider themselves smart and even sly especially in conversation but the impression of the writer is that they are rather jaundiced.

The area patrolled ~~xxxx~~ could hardly be called scenic; low erratic ridges covered with dense jungle interspersed with sago swamps - the dominant feature of course the Fly River.

The entire population is occupied with subsistence farming and gathering even though the rubber scheme is intended to change this picture. Naturally, the standard of development is nil and the populace extremely poor.

OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Generally the picture is unstable mainly due to the lack of a definite rubber policy and the premature introduction of a local government council.

As reported in Kiunga Patrol No2 of 66-67 a fair number of South Awin villages as well as some North Awin groups had migrated onto the road leading from Kiunga to Rumginae in order to participate in the Kiunga rubber scheme. They are still there waiting for the go-ahead to start clearing the land for rubber. Of course these movements did have the prior approval of the Agricultural Officer at Kiunga and were probably designed to bring ~~xxxx~~ pressure to bear so as an early decision could be sought. More or less their idea has backfired as the land on which they have settled seems unsuitable for the growing of rubber, but this only a lay opinion. A few of the villages on the Fly River have already received rubber and those further upstream have been promised plantings in the near future. What is needed now is a careful agricultural survey of the land along this road to Rumginae.

The Kiunga Local Government Council has not been entirely successful as the means of local administration to this area mainly because of the lack of strong and forceful leadership in the villages. The councillor with his badge does not project a strong enough symbol of power and authority and as a result the village people, especially the women folk, take small heed of his "talk". One Councillor confided with me saying he never visited a certain village in his ward because he was frightened of them. Whether he was pulling the wool over my eyes or not, it must be admitted that this is a most undesirous attitude for a local government councillor to have. A few other Councillors have told me they have considered resigning their positions

67

OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION (contd)

because they have had little success in obtaining the cooperation of the people. This could be contributed to the style in which they employ to obtain their favours but this doubtful because the village people consider that the councillor has little or no authority over their affairs. This clearly illustrates their mode of thinking; they are oblivious to the benefits and satisfaction that a Local Government Council can bring and the only order they understand and accept is the court order when they have committed wrong. It seems that a crash programme of Local Government education is needed quickly but in this area of scattered isolated groups, tribal and inter village antagonisms and the general lack of sophistication and outside experience would be a long and difficult job. It is hoped that with the maturity of the rubber scheme and a wider participation in a cash economy these problems will be gradually overcome. The immediate problems are serious and even less easily overcome. A low income council such as the Kiunga Council must rely heavily on Administration grants and can hope for little much else than providing limited welfare services such as aid-posts and the like which I think does not greatly impress the village populace. Therefore, the council must work quietly and efficiently hand in hand with the Administration until such time it gets the sympathy of the village man.

KIUNGA RUBBER SCHEME

Proceeding quietly but hampered by the lack of qualified staff. The one overseas officer at Kiunga has a full time job on his hands simply running the station and supervising the distribution of rubber with no time available for land tenure investigations and other duties requiring the services of a well qualified officer. For example the village settlements on the Ruginse road urgently need investigation but cannot be carried out because the set out at Kiunga virtually requires the full time attendance of the officer. Of course the villagers are very keen to get rubber but the wait is long and the first signs of disenchantment are evident and day by day the Administration is losing face in the eyes of the village man. Probably he is beginning to think that the whole thing is a big hoax and things were better in the old days. To add to this I have been advised that a bber seed will this year be probably difficult to obtain and on top of this some sort of disease has been discovered that is effecting the young rubber seedlings. Definitely a bleak picture that could be refreshed by the addition of extra qualified staff.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Non-existent apart from the Kiunga Buyers Society who are also passing through a bad stage. Crocodile hunting has practically ceased because of the unfavourable prices for the skins and this has meant that the Society's traditional basic source of income has dwindled alarmingly. Retailing is now its biggest source of income which now has also dropped to nothing because of empty shelves.

ONS

Out

M/I

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (contd)

Orders for goods placed over eight months ago have as yet not arrived because of the complete non availability of shipping. It can be safely assumed that a fair majority of these foodstuffs will arrive at Kiunga in an ~~an~~ inedible state. The Society is in the position to take full advantage of the full cash salary of the local Public Servant but cannot because it has nothing to sell.

The Trans Fly Shipping Cooperative's boat the "River Fly" should put an end to this deplorable situation but delivery of the boat from Australia is not expected for at least another two months. It is amazing that not one Daru boatowner has shown any interest in hauling cargo for the Society even though freight charges are at a most attractive rate for the shipowner.

MISSIONS

There are two missions active in the area. The Roman Catholics at Kiunga and the Unevangelized Field Missions at Runginae. The Runginae ~~has~~ mission has had far more experience in the mission field than their counterparts.

Both provide an education up to Standard 6 as well as excellent medical services.

The Runginae mission has probably won much of the loyalty and sympathy of the people over the Kiunga mission but it seems that neither mission are a force to be reckoned with in the area.

HEALTH

On the whole rather poor. Skin diseases are common especially grilles where at least one person out of every two is infected with this unsightly complaint. Common sores are also evident but not numerous. Presumably internal diseases are common as indicated by the poor physique and well being of a fair majority of the people although the Awin people tend to be taller and bigger boned than their neighbours. A reasonable number of people from this area are currently undergoing treatment for TB at the Daru General Hospital.

There is one Administration ~~ix~~ Aid Post in the area at DRIMGAS village, a well set out place and a credit to the APO there. His only complaint was that he could not obtain drugs and supplies from his Medical Assistant at Ningerum. This is because of the hopeless transport arrangements between Daru-Kiunga-Ningerum where supplies are shipped to Kiunga from Daru - await for air charter to Ningerum - supplies ordered from Kiunga - flown back to Kiunga where at long last collected by a grateful APO.

Excellent medical facilities are provided by the missions at Kiunga and Runginae. A Medical Practitioner is stationed at Runginae while at Kiunga a qualified and highly experienced nun supervises their hospital.

The Kiunga Sub-District "Flying Doctor" service has not eventuated mainly due to the unavailability of charter aircraft and lack of close liaison between the Doctor at Runginae and the Public Health authorities in Daru.

971

COMPLAINTS

Two complaints were heard that warranted judicial action at Kiunga.

An assault case was investigated at DRINGAS village beginning as a domestic quarrel over an egg and where it finally one chap ended up readying his bow and arrow outfit and threatening to shoot another chap who had already received a blow to his head from an axe given to him by his wife. All details and the circumstances involved were investigated and the party sent off to Kiunga to lay court proceedings.

Another incident brought to the notice of the patrol concerned the destruction of several okari nut trees where the ownership of the trees was in question. All details were collected and the two parties were requested to go to Kiunga to instigate proceedings.

CENSUS

The figures speak for themselves and need little explanation. At the present moment a fair majority of the absent workers are being employed by APC at Everill Junction or by DASF at various rubber projects near Port Moresby where they are learning skills about rubber and it is hoped that they will impart these skills back to the men in their home villages.

The Common Roll was compiled from the latest AK census sheets.

.....

