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# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: MILNE BAY

STATION: MISIMA

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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67-4-28

PATROL REPORT No. 5-65/66.

By

W.M. BLOXAM.

MISIMA.

MILNE BAY DISTRICT.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of... **MILNE BAY** ..... Report No. **5-65/66** **MISIMA**

Patrol Conducted by... **WILLIAM H. BLOOM** **C.D.O.**

Area Patrolled... **DEBOYNE CENSUS DIVISION**

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans... **NIL**

Natives... **1 Member R.P.&N.G.O. & 1 Interpreter**

Duration—From **22** / **6** / 1966 to **12** / **7** / 1966

Number of Days **9 DAYS** (Broken Period)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? **NO**

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services... **JUNE** / 1966

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

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol... **(1) CENSUS REVISION** **(2) ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION**

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
POKT 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.F. Trust Fund ..... £.....

67-1-1

Sub-District Office,  
BWAGAOIA,  
Milne Bay District.

3rd August, 1966.

District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SANARAI.

MISIMA PATROL REPORT No. 5-65/66

M.H. BLOXAM C.P.O.

Attached please find three (3) copies of the above-mentioned Patrol Report, Claims for Camping Allowance are also forwarded.

2. The general situation in this Census Division appears to be satisfactory. My impression of the Deboyne people is that they are a fairly independent-minded lot and prefer to go their own way with the minimum of outside interference. To a large extent they are not in a position to do this. The islands of Panapoupan and Pancati are served by an Administration Primary 'T' School, an Aid Post, and two Co-operative stores. Kianta island has its Aid Post and Co-operative store. Each island is directly represented in the Louisiade Local Government Council. In short, the basic needs of a rural society are being met.

3. Mr. Bloxam could possibly have gone into more detail in his report, if only in the reason of added experience in practical reporting. Some indication might have been given of such things as the nature and extent of traditional activities, and the way in which the people balance these against present-day economic considerations.

4. The report, though brief, is quite well presented.



(D.F. Fernald)

Assistant District Commissioner.

67-1-6

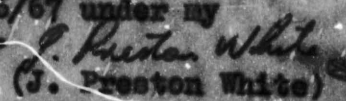
Minute to:-

Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KORORUA.

Department of District Administration,  
SANARAI MILNE BAY DISTRICT  
25th November, 1966.

Forwarded for your records please.

2. Mr. Bloxam is to be encouraged to develop a more constructive approach as outlined in my covering memorandum to the report of Misima Patrol No. 3 of 1965/67 under my reference 67-1-6 dated 25th November, 1966.



(J. Preston White)

District Commissioner.

c.c. Assistant District Commissioner, BWAGAOIA.



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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM  
Telephones 4601  
Our Ref. no. 67-4-28  
If calling ask for  
Mr. ....

Department of District Administration,  
Konedobu, Papua.

9th December, 1966.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
MAHARAI.

OVERSEAS PATROL REPORTS

Reports as listed below have just been received at this Headquarters for patrols undertaken prior to 1st September, 1966.

Under your reference 67-1-5 dated 28th November, you state that any action arising from these patrols has been taken and any further comment superfluous. I concur.

Reports received :-

- Gaseopa Patrol Report No. 2 65/66 by H.A. Morris
- Gaseopa Patrol Report No. 3 65/66 by H.V. Morris
- Misima Patrol Report No. 5 65/66 by W.E. Blaxan
- Budiana Patrol Report No. 4 65/66 by J.J. Soroda
- Rabaraba Patrol Report No. 7 65/66 by R.D. Kelvin
- Rabaraba Patrol Report No. 9 65/66 by R.D. Kelvin
- Rabaraba Patrol Report No. 2 65/67 by R.D. Kelvin
- Rabaraba Patrol Report No. 3 66/67 by J.J. Soroda
- Misima Patrol Report No. 3 66/67 by W.E. Blaxan

Reports should be forwarded with the minimum of delay even if handwritten comments or no comment at all is possible.

(J. E. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR

67.4.28



67-1-1

Sub-District Office,  
BWAGAOIA,  
Milne Bay District.

3rd August, 1966.

District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

MISIMA PATROL REPORT No. 5-65/66

W.H. BLOXAM C.P.O.

Attached please find three (3) copies of the above-mentioned Patrol Report, Claims for Camping Allowance are also forwarded.

2. The general situation in this Census Division appears to be satisfactory. My impression of the Deboyne people is that they are a fairly independent-minded lot and prefer to go their own way with the minimum of outside interference. To a large extent they are now in a position to do this. The islands of Panapompa and Panati are served by an Administration Primary 'P' School, an Aid Post, and two Co-operative stores. Kinuta island has its Aid Post and Co-operative store. Each island is directly represented on the Louisiade Local Government Council. In short, the basic needs of a rural society are being met.

3. Mr. Bloxam could possibly have gone into more detail in his report, if only for the reason of added experience in practical reporting. Some indication might have been given of such things as the nature and extent of traditional activities, and the way in which the people balance them against present-day economic considerations.

4. The report, though brief, is quite well presented.

*(Signature)*  
(D.F. Fernezel)

Assistant District Commissioner.

Minute to:- Department of District Administration, 67-1-6  
Director, SAMARAI ..... MILNE BAY DISTRICT.  
Department of District Administration, 28th November, 1966.  
KONEDOB.

Forwarded for your records please.  
2. Mr. Bloxam is to be encouraged to develop a more constructive approach as outlined in my covering memorandum to the report of Misima Patrol No.3 of 1966/67 under my reference 67-1-6 dated 25th November, 1966.

*(Signature)*  
(J. Preston White)  
District Commissioner.

c.c. Assistant District Commissioner, Bwagaia.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67-1-0

Sub-District Office,  
BWAGAOIA,  
Milne Bay District.

21st June, 1966.

Mr. W. Bloxar,  
Cadet Patrol Officer,  
BWAGAOIA.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS

Please make all necessary preparations to depart Bwagaia Wednesday, 22nd June for a patrol to the Deboyne Census Division. The purpose of the patrol will be to revise the census and to attend to matters of a routine nature.

2. One member of the Bwagaia detachment R.P. & M.C. will accompany the patrol as also will interpreter BWADUA M. M. Rations and equipment sufficient for the duration of the patrol which should be approximately one week may be drawn from the Sub-District store.

3. The Census will be compiled using the new type of Village Population Register. New Village Books will be issued where necessary.


4. The Aid Post Orderly from PANRATI is to return to that village from Bwagaia. Please ensure that he travels with you on the m.v. 'Toaripi'.

5. Please check on Special Arms Permit issues from this office and take appropriate action where re-newals have not been effected.

6. Any matter requiring action through the Local Court is to be referred to this office. The "Matters for Attention on Patrol" file should be consulted prior to your departure.

7. Please refer to office file 44-1-6 for details of the proposed improvements to village water supplies in the Deboyne group and discuss these with the people.

8. The m.v. 'Toaripi' will be available to you for the duration of the patrol and will be required back at Bwagaia on the 29th June.

  
(D.F. Perndzel)

Assistant District Commissioner

PATROL DIARY

1966

Wednesday, 22nd JUNE

Departed BWAGAOLA at 08.15hrs on M.V. 'TOARIPI' for NIVANI where the medical orderly treated one of the plantation workers. Arrival time 12.30hrs. Sleep NIVANI.

Tuesday, 23rd

Depart NIVANI at 08.00 hrs for PANAPOMPOM; arrived 08.45 hrs. Census held at 09.00 hrs. Wrong part of census book used and consequently the census had to be done again later. Departed PANAPOMPOM 11.45 hrs and arrived at PANABATI at 12.15 hrs. Patrol stayed there while 'TOARIPI' was sent back to BWAGAOLA with a message regarding census book. Sleep PANABATI.

Friday, 24th

'TOARIPI' returns at 10.45 hrs and census commenced. Sleep PANABATI.

Saturday, 25th

Census completed by 10.30 hrs. Villages inspected in the afternoon. Sleep PANABATI.

Sunday, 26th

Visit made to some of the gardens inland. Sleep PANABATI.

Monday, 27th

Departed PANABATI at 08.00 hrs for PANAPOMPOM where the census was done again. Return and sleep at PANABATI.

Tuesday, 28th

Departed PANABATI 10.00 hrs for BWAGAOLA. Arrived at 13.00 hrs. Sleep BWAGAOLA.

----- BREAK -----

Monday, 11th JULY

Departed BWAGAOLA 09.00 hrs for KIMUTA. Arrived 11.00 hrs. Census revised. Sleep KIMUTA.

PATROL DIARY CONTD.

Tuesday, 12th JULY

M.V. 'TOARIPI' returned at 14.00hrs  
taking some people to Moturina Is., and Panacati Is.  
Patrol departed Kimuta at 14.30 hrs; arrived at BWAGAOLA  
XXXX at 16.00 hrs. Sleep BWAGAOLA.

-----END OF PATROL-----

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MISIMA PATROL REPORT  
No.5 - 65/ 6

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INTRODUCTION

This was a short patrol to the Deboyne Census group, the major part of which lies South West of Misima Island and consists of the islands of Panaeati, Panapompon, and Nivani of which the former is the largest. The island of Nivani is a plantation owned at present by Mr. Miller and consequently is not included in the village census. The island of Kimuta which lies South East of Misima is the remaining part of the census group.

The patrol was a routine census patrol and my first patrol in this Sub-District.

VILLAGES

The standard of housing in the villages was average with the exception of a small portion of Panaeati which was in a diabolical condition. Some of the houses were literally falling down. Apparently this is due to the fact that the people in this section of the village had been very busy in their gardens and had no time to collect sage from Misima. (There is a marked shortage of building materials on Panaeati). The gentlemen concerned were advised to build new houses within three months. The lower part of Panaeati village however, has some remarkably good houses. One in particular caught my eye; it stood about twelve feet off the ground and had an excellent front door obviously looted from some shipwreck, it did not however have any steps leading down from it.

One problem worthy of mention is that of pigs. This is a very old problem but as yet nothing has been done about it and these animals continue to wander around the houses making the place dirty and unhealthy. When I say nothing has been done about it, I mean no conclusive steps have been taken. The Local Government Council has been trying to pass a law stating that pigs must be kept in pens, however they have been trying to do

VILLAGES CONTD.

in this for the last five years with no success. The Law has been submitted again and the Council is at present waiting legal advice on the matter.

There is no rest house at either Panaeati or Panaponpon, and any patrol coming through must stay at the womens club in Panaeati, while the councillor usually puts up the police and interpreter. This situation is neither convenient for the women nor the councillor, consequently the people were requested to build a rest house and a police barrack. These will be built near the Aid Post and although the site is further away from the anchorage than the womens club it affords a good shelter from the wind which is inclined to be strong at times.

AGRICULTURE

While at Panaeati and Kimuta I visited some of the gardens and noted that there was no lack of food and that the gardens seemed to be doing fairly well despite the shortage of rain.

The only cash cropping in this area is in the form of copra. The Mivima Native Society had a fairly good year with a turnover of \$3994 last financial year representing approximately 57 tons of copra from Panaeati; \$1404 from Panaponpon (20 tons); \$2856 from Kimuta (40 tons). The people also sell a fair amount of copra to Nivani Plantation and to Joseph Polisbe a mixed race planter.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

As mentioned before the Mivima Native Societies did well last year. The turnover for the store at Panaeati in 1964/65 was \$4730; in the last financial year it rose to \$6910 an increase of over 45%. From this figure it can be seen that the people in the Panaeati area have progressed fairly well. On the other hand however the figures for Kimuta show the opposite. The turnover in 1964/65 was \$3443; this fell to \$2792 during the period 1965/66 showing a decrease of just over 23%. Mr. Oraka <sup>secretary</sup> for the society stated that a change in types of goods ordered could account for this and that he did not think it was because the people lacked money.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY CONTD.

He went on to say that turnover this coming financial year is expected to improve greatly.

The people also collect shell most of which is sold to the Society, and although the output is not great, the turnover only being \$428 for the Debeyne group including Kinuta; nevertheless it provides for the needs of a minority.

COMPLAINTS

Only one minor complaint concerning payment for a pig was brought forward. This was settled by arbitration.

EDUCATION

There is only one school in this area, that being the Government school at Panaseti which teaches up to Standard 4. At present a new class room is under construction and this should be completed shortly. The Councillor for East Panaseti (Dere) is in charge of the construction as he has had a fair amount of experience in carpentry. A contract has been signed and on completion of the work those concerned will receive \$200.

CENSUS

During this patrol the village population register was revised, the statistics of which accompany this report.

CONCLUSION

As I mentioned before, this was my first patrol in this sub-district, and although only a short one, a little more experience was gained on my part. The fact that I used the office copy of the census register the first time I revised the census at Panapompen was a mistake of oversight on my part. This was corrected and everything went smoothly with the exception of the weather. Rain marred the patrol to a certain extent, but on the whole it was most enjoyable.

APPENDIX

PERSONNEL

R.P.A.N.G.C. - No.9909 Const. 10th yr. LEGEP-MUGRING.

Not an outstanding constable. Although he is usually smart he is slow to comprehend anything.

INTERPRETER - SWADUA-BOPIN.

An intelligent young man and a good interpreter. He has a good command of english and with training could do well in a higher field.

  
.....  
( William H. Bloxam )