1922

No 3 22/23.

Extract of report No. 3 22/23 to Collingwood Bay, by A. MacDonnell R.M.

Saturday, 12th. August, 1922.

With 4 A.C.S. and a local crew of 6, I left KUNA in whaleboat and travelled on to AWAMINA of the WAMIAVI tribe. Found V.C. KUKUN very ill; suffering from what appears to be severe bronchitis. Gave him Salts and Quinine- the only medicines I carried.

Inspected village and plantation and found all in order, with the exception of a little cleaning of the plantation to be attended to.

V.C. MAGA of KAMANI -really a part of AWAMINA- reported. He is responsible for the upkeep of part of the plantation.

Sunday 13th.

Pulled across to KUANA (V.C. SIWOWO) of the KUBIRI tribe and had breakfast, then set Sail and lying up to a stiff S.E. breeze, made KAKNA at dusk. V.C. AWANA reported. He too has been suffering from a severe cold but is almost well again.

Monday 14th.

Pulled on to KEWAMBANAPA plantation, worked by the KUBIRI & WOIUAM men. Since I was last here an additional small area has been cleared, so that all the frontage from KUGA creek to KAKNA creek is now cleared and planted. The total length is about half a mile, and the average depth about 9 chains. I went carefully over the whole area, and found Top of the trees doing well, while the balance are more or less stunted due to water, mentioned in my previous report. However, the whole place is bone dry now, so that the water must be some distance beneath the earth's surface, and will remain so for another two or three months when the heavy rains will again come on, and the place will be practically inundated. Under x existing conditions, the best is being done, and the natives will, I think reap some benefit for the time and labour put in on the place. It is a pity that tools cannot be supplied unless the plantation is made one under the A.D.O. Improvements could be made if a few shovels and hoes were used on the plantation. Trees require terracing, and drains, in places should be dug. If these people plant twice, they will certainly have to be provided with tools; otherwise how is the soil to be worked? Bunds have to be made, and races or canals dug to allow the water to flow back from the river for irrigation.

V.C.S. TAMADI of WOIUAM and AIMAN of KUBIRI both reported at the plantation. They tell me the men are still making copra.

Tuesday 15th.

Returned to KAKNA, made an inspection of village and plantation and found all in order. There are quite a lot of KUANA men here attending a feast. Asked them what food they had, and was informed that owing to the shortage of pigs, they were not having a very elaborate affair; the menu would be Sago, a little taro, cocoanuts, and a couple of dogs. As a matter of fact I watched the preparation of a dog. He was treated in exactly the same way as they do their pigs, except that he was not speared, but was given a knock on the head with a thick stick. Went on to KUMAKUNA, WAIAUNUNUK and KAIMUAUKOTOK villages and found all in order.

Wednesday 16th.

On to KANUA of the KAIBIA, V.C. KAUSAUNA. The plantation on GUKUGUKU creek is fairly clean, and most of the misses have been planted up. Next to SINIPANA, and SINAPA and on to GANJIGA. Inspected second plntn. worked by the men of UIANU, GANJIGA and SUMANUO. V.C. KUSUGI of GANJIGA reported

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that V.O. GAITU of ULAWA was suffering from a bad hand caused by being bitten by a wild pig. Had a look at the hand and found it improving. Settled several native matters. SOLOMON complains that the pay he is receiving -10/- p.m. is no good, and states that if he does not receive an increase he intends resigning, and going "outside" to work where he can earn more money. He is a good man, and does his work well. GAITU is tired of the job of V.O. Have told him to come in when he is well and he can then hand in his uniform.
The men of ULAWA and GAUDIBA a few years ago, did very little plantation work, but now they are quite alright and give no trouble in avoiding work. V.O. SOLOMON has given some sound advice evidently.

THURSDAY 17th.

To TO-AI-U (V.O. SUSARU of the MAKIRA) where I found a little more work has been done along the beach. About one acres of timber have been felled, stacked and burned, and the area will soon be planted with cocoanuts. There are not many men here, so how much can be expected of them. Went on to WANIGUNA where V.Os. KAIMONI of OMMANDAN, WABI of KUMANDUN, and ADEN MAKU of MUMIN reported. Inspected the villages of OMMANDAN, KAIMU, KUMANDUN, AI-ASI, MUMIN and AIMAN and found all in order. The plantation is alright. There has been no rain for a fortnight, so the grass is not growing so quickly as it does in the wet season. Away from WANIGUNA at 4 p.m. and arrived KUARA at 6 p.m.

FRIDAY 18th.

The trees at KUARA, particularly near H.Q.s. are growing well. No extension has been made lately.
Sailed on to UWA, when to GIWORA and SIDIMORU where I breakfasted and afterwards walked up to AWAGIANA and MANAGA and inspected plantation. Good work has been done lately. Purchased 100 cocoanuts from AWAGINA to be planted in the UWA area.
On to MUMIN and AWAGINA. At the first place V.O. ABUBUN reported all well. The plantation looks fine, and the village is clean and tidy. The same can be said of AWAGINA. Dealt with several native matters.

SATURDAY 19th.

Proceeded to SINIRANA (WANIARI) and enquired into the Suicide of a woman, by hanging herself. The natives tell me that this is the sixth case of hanging by women. No men have hanged themselves. A case of hanging (suicide) -the last- occurred about 10 years ago. The woman's husband is a young man and appears to be greatly upset over his wife's death, and could give no reason for his wife taking her life. She used the bark of the mulberry tree (used for making tappa cloth) for a rope. Her feet were on the ground when the body was found.

Went on to GUAWARU and found the natives have about 10 acres of cocoanuts growing nicely here. There is no V.O. at GUAWARU. Both villages clean. Next to JAGO (V.O. GORUK of the KUMARI tribe) A feast has just concluded here, and there is over a ton of taro stores in a house, a GORUK says they have too much taro now, but expects that in a few months the men will have to make sago, for the taro will all be finished then.
Next to KAIMADUN of the KUMARI. About 7 acres of cocoanuts are growing here, but are too young to report on at present.

Sailed on and arrived at KUARA at 4.30 p.m. and found the carpenter had arrived last Monday, and was going on with the work.

[signature]
A.D.O.

19/8/[illegible]

(Map furnished with patrol report No. Isl 22.)

(Bad type due to smoke in out-station.)