

1932, 1931

6

Cape Nelson Patrol Journals 1930-32

78
Box 6518

P.P. 1930-32 R.W. Grist Acting R.M. 151

Tax & Census.

Uiakhu (Wed)

"MURIEL - the legal wife of an ex Mission Teacher - complains that her husband has taken a second wife, N.G. fashion. She wants support away from him as she objects to the new wife. As he supports her she of course has no case. One gets rather too much of ~~leg~~ these legal and N.G. marriage cases in this division. It seems hopeless pointing out to the people the absolute finality of the legal ceremony. Personally, I think it a great pity that the legal ceremony is performed."

PAKASI tried to pull fast one for F.B. mixing up children of his 3 wives

① S. Elliott Smith P.O. April 19-23 1932.

Uiakhu - no convicted for playing cards for money

Villages: "Most of these are being rebuilt in a much superior manner than heretofore and it will not be long before the Division is a set of Model Villages. I say this in good faith, and if the encouragement is kept up, with possibly a little pressure where and when needed, it will be an accomplished fact in the next few months"

② Humphries 9/6/32 - 20/6/32

Kitolo one (see notes Blc #1) - check and see if p.c. in order

P.R. 1930-31

150

Humphries 26/2 - 12/3/31

Ganjiga described as model village;
"Houses and streets (etc) in first class order, also surroundings. Latrines have been built, and they are being used."

Census in mess

Morua football captain TOMU

W.R. Humphries - Patrol Reports

ML. UNCAT. MISS SET 105

Patrol: Cape Nelson to Benicara Oct. 10-18 1933

Tues 17.10.33

- at Sinapa; walked to Builubi to a camp run by Staff Supervisor REILLY of TROPICANE LTD. at Humphries "old base camp" - rubber plantation

- 44 natives, 24 casuals

- praises wonderfully rich soil, very pleasant climate $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles to sea; building homes, latrine and road; most labor from Tufi

- casuals complained of not enough food; talked to Eugene about native policy - thing about 3 subs going

1 p.m. council meeting of c.'s & VC from MOIBIRI, LAKO, LEAGA, MARUA, AIRARA, SINIFARA, SINAPA & UIAKU

- ~~concluded~~ reviewed work regarding "to gardening, distribution of government work, abolition of incarceration of widows, improvement of villages, foot ball, prohibition of betel nut chewing where children are concerned and the better understanding of the Government's aims and wishes generally,..."

- got away at 3 "after a rather tiring ordeal of hand shaking..."

18.10.33 Similar meeting at Wanigela. - council notes being prepared to be distributed [?]

To Uwe and District 5 - 18 Sept. 1933.

8th - at Uwe, the council had talked the people into reducing period of incarceration of widow from 6 mo. to 1 wk. - felt gratified

11th - Sinapa; problem of swamps - sunk wells, but water brackish

- Monday for "Government work": "i.e. cleaning of the football ground, filling in of swamp, roads, rest house and barracks."

MR CHANCE - relieving Kursovics

- visited Buiuli - just starting on road

"Report of Patrol by W.R. Humphries P.M. to Kerevi Valley for the Purpose of Arresting Men Wanted for the Murder of Gamani and Oian of Biniguni" (1-16 Oct 1932)

- murders apparently at Wanigela

- long hike into hills; at BIRAUBI and LANOKA country expressed indignation about murdering "I said that if murder was not wrong it would not be wrong for the Government to come and kill their boys and girls as they had killed Hilda and Romney."

- may want to look at this more closely - country back of Muisin

Patrol Report of 7-16 Sept. 1932 has interesting note on anthropology course offered by R-B at Sydney

- Humphries felt that much of it wasn't useful esp. physical anthrop. & prehistory; but "functionalism"

more useful because an officer "needs to know how to deal with facts as they exist to-day and as they are shaping themselves."

"Report of patrol by W. P. Humphries R.I.M. to Mr. Sisilep for the purpose of arresting men wanted for the murders of Gaman and Oi-an of Biniguni Village" 8th & 19th Sept. 1932
- heard of crime 7th of Sept. from A.P.M. at Boeniva, and immediately set out

- - ^{A.J.} Mr. Thompson priest in charge at Wanigela
- Wilda DANKUM and Romny AWAI-A involved there
 - Wides arrived 4 days earlier - after the murders
 - Biniguni village in interview - must be other murders.

Patrol to Southern Boundary 9-20 June 1932

Council meeting Wanigela Fri. 10/6/32

- requested people to build new type of house - all being
"The rooms are bigger and lighter (formerly the walls were about three feet high - now they are six feet) and the door in the floor has been abolished; it is now on the veranda, opening inwards. Further the pitch on the roof has been increased. The old design has not been abolished - it has been greatly improved."

- complains about lack of progress on football field

V.C. MADURU brought forward a case of divination of the cause of recent influenza

Ubir sent word to KITOLO of Uiahu, "because he is known noted for his powers of dealing with sorcerers who cause death and other calamities; he is said to be able to destroy all spells cast by such people." - he came to Wangela in "official dress" and went around villages; at KOREAF and BIAFI, he located 3 houses as source and commanded the occupants to "bring forth that thing". He denounced these bundles as the work of the Devil and bundled them over to MADURU - epidemic wound & reputation of KITOLO very high

- Humphries saw the "devils bundles" - people terrified of them, had not opened - ridiculed their beliefs, but not KITOLO
 - ~~the~~ felt that bundle-owners had tongues-in-cheeks, that realise these are harmless things in memory of the dead, but SAIDA of KOREAF has genuine belief he can do harm

"Certainly KITOLO claims openly of possessing the power of divination and healing. If and how far the latter is guilty of conscious deception I do not know, but once my suspicions were aroused when during the course of a quiet talk he asked me to tell him how the world began 'because he wanted to pass the information on to his people.'"

Head Councillor CECIL IAGURU elected - takes meetings when PM not there

- plan to translate notes for patrol officers into Ubir; schools had a copy and Thompson teaching about it to "senior scholars"

"What results will attend these new endeavours I do not know; but if we are to succeed in grafting the elements of responsible

leadership on to the system of tribal life we should replace every channel of promise, and swallow every disappointment that comes along."

Sat. 11/6/32

- visited a Mr. PANTON at a camp in bush; had had one visitor in six mo (MR PETERSON); survey of land - 20,000 acres plantation? - bush of KOREAF

Mon. 13/6/32 Uiahu

- received "the Maisin greeting" (?)

- very warm welcome - flowers in rest house, lots of ♀ and kids
"V.C. WEA full of importance and enthusiasm reported plantation clean and thriving and that nearly all the houses in the group had been rebuilt."

- football game with Warigela (Maisin 3 to 1)

Captains: Warigela: IKONI Uiahu: Ambrose...

"Watching this game I recalled the recent remarks of a writer on Arabian raids and warfare. After saying that it was a mistake to become too concerned about these things, he went on "If he (the Arab) could be persuaded to take up Association football and have a tribal league table it is possible that raiding would wane in popularity, but so far there is no sign of that happening."

14/6/32

At school 145 scholars, classes 1-4

- teacher reported that attendance good - thanks to efforts of Councilors, both children and parents saw school as good
- inspected various villages or "DAMS" making up Uiahu
"New house everywhere, superior in every way to the old. Some are

built on the old model, though with high walls and a front door instead of a hole in the floor; some again are of an entirely new design, picturesque and serviceable. I am not responsible for this new design in any way; I simply asked the people before I went on leave to skew (sic) me better houses villages and houses when I returned. They have surely done so. And proud indeed were the men when they pointed to their work on the swampy areas behind the village. The progress here exceeds all my expectations. To-day I can see little of the old UIAHU; houses and grounds and football field have all received a lot of attention."

- arranged with the head teacher of school to translate pupil notes into Maisin; SIMBORO elected Head Councillor of Board

- sees a new civic spirit in area in past 2 to 3 yrs; shifts part of responsibility to new councillors: "there it is, a new growth affording an outlet for talents and energies that have hitherto been unrealised or ignored."

- Discussion on society to which KITOLO invited
 - he was one of the Three Spear Chiefs (GANANI KAWO) of Maisin, and his father had been head of his dom
 - SIMBORO - HC - one of "low drum chiefs" (IRAVI KAWO)
 - KITOLO seen as "a good man whose knowledge and powers often stood between the people and calamity."