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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: Bougainville

STATION: Kieta

VOLUME No: 19

ACCESSION No: 496.

1969 - 1970

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: KIETA
 ACCESSION No. 496
 VOL. No: 19 : 1969-1970 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 1

[REPORT N° 1 ONLY IN FOLDER.]

REPORT NO:	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED	MAPS/ PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
[] 1- 69/70	1-19.	Wohler P.J. P.O.	Koromira Census Division	-	24/7/69-6/8/69.
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Total N° of Pages: 19

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PATROL REPORT N° 1-69/70

By

8/

P.J. Wohlers

KIETA

BOUGAINVILLE DISTRICT



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

Di
Pa **Report Number** : Kieta 1/69-70
Ar **Sub-District** : Kieta
Pa **District** : Bougainville
Council : Kieta Local Govt. Council
Patrol Conducted by: P.J.Wohlers
Du **Designation** : Patrol Officer
Area Patrolled : Koromira Census Division
Personnel Accompanying: 2 Members R.P. & N.G.C.
Di **Duration of Patrol** : 24/7/69 to 6/8/69
La **Total Number Days** : 14
Objects of Patrol :
1. Conduct Census
2. Routine Administration
3. Discuss Council Activities
4. Continue Political Education
5. Discuss work on Pirineiu road
Ma
Ob
.....
Total Population of Area: 1260
Di **Map Reference** : Fourmil Bougainville South
PG **Milinch Aropa**
Village Population
Register : Attached

26/9/69

[Signature]
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation \$..... *None*
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund \$.....
Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund
.....
.....

13	Females in Child Birth
F	

67-3-1
 HJG:PB

Sub-District Office,
 Box 69 P.O.,
KIETA,
 Bougainville District.

23rd July, 1969.

Mr. P.J. Wollers,
 Patrol Officer,
KIETA.

KIETA PATROL NO. 1, 1969-70

INSTRUCTIONS KOROMERA CENSUS DIVISION

Please depart for patrol of this Census Division on the 24th July, 1969. Before leaving, read Department of District Administration Circular 67-1-0 of 21st June, 1968.

The purposes of patrol are:

1. Recheck Census figures.
2. Carry out Routine Administration.
3. Discuss with people purposes and workings of Local Government Council and devote time to other political education.
4. Discuss with people their share of work on PIRINCIU road. \$800.00 has already been allocated to Council through Rural Development funds to assist in this work.
5. Collect a list of all shot guns held in the area.
6. Discuss with Mr. PIAU DOLIU of PIRINCIU his application for Store keepers licence as per 38-7-22 of 27th June, 1967 from District Commissioner.
7. Check matters from "For Attention" on Patrol File.
8. I shall visit your patrol in the field for a couple of days as opportunity permits.

W. J. Grant

(W.J. Grant)
Assistant District Commissioner

67-4-1

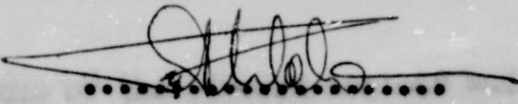
PJW/pjw

Sub District Office,
P.O.Box 69,
KIETA
Bougainville District,
6th August 1969

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub District Office,
KIETA

KIETA PATROL REPORT No. 1/68470

Patrol Conducted by : P.J.Wohlbers
Designation : Patrol Officer
Area Patrolled : Keromira Census Division
Sub-District : Kieta
District : Bougainville
Personnel Accompanying : 2 members R.P. & N.G.C.
Duration Of Patrol : 24/7/69 to 6/8/69
Total Number of Days : 14
Last DDA Patrol to Area : 17/3/69 to 3/4/69
Objects of the Patrol :
1. Conduct Census
2. Carry out Routine Administration
3. Discuss Council activities and continue Political Education.
4. Discuss with Pirineiu people their share of road work.
5. Other matters as per Patrol Instructions.
Population of Area : 1260
Population Register : Attached


.....
P.J.Wohlbers
Patrol Officer

Kieta Patrol No. 1/69-4

PATROL DIARY

- 24/7/69**
Thursday
- 11.10 am Departed Kieta by Toyota and travelled to Toimanapu Plantation.
 - 12.55 pm Arrived Toimanapu Plantation.
 - 3.30 pm Departed Toimanapu and walked to Taki village.
 - 5.15 pm Arrived Taki
 - 8.00 pm Discussions with Taki men until 1.00 am
- 25/7/69**
Friday
- 8.00 am Conducted census of Taki village.
 - 3.30 pm Departed Taki and walked to Anapo.
 - 5.15 pm Arrived Anapo.
 - 8.00 pm Listened to Mr. Newmans speech with the local people.
- 26/7/69**
Saturday
- 8.00 am Conducted Census of Anapo.
 - 12.00 am Departed Anapo and walked to Siorovi.
 - 12.45 pm Arrived Siorovi.
 - 7.30 pm Discussions with Siorovà men.
- 27/7/69**
Sunday
- Observed at Siorovi.
- 28/7/69**
Monday
- 9.15 am Conducted Census of Siorovi
 - 11.00 am Departed Siorovi and walked to Minani via Pondona.
 - 2.00 pm Conducted census of Pondona and Minani followed by general discussion with assembled people.
- 29/7/69**
Tuesday
- 8.00 am Departed Minani and walked to Sirowai.
 - 9.00 am Arrived Sirowai.
 - 10.00 am Conducted census of Sirowai followed by general discussions with Sirowai people.
 - 3.00 pm Travelled to Matana and inspected village.
 - 8.00 pm Called to disperse a fight between the Sirowai villagers and the Kekere Plantation Labour.
- 30/7/69**
Wednesday
- 8.00 am Walked to one of the Sirowai hamlets and observed tax collection.
 - 11.00 am Walked to Kekere Plantation and lunched with Manager.
 - 3.00 pm Returned to Sirowai.

- 31/7/69
Thursday
- 8.00 am Departed Sirowai and travelled by Koiama truck to Mangona.
- 9.00 am Conducted census of Kamarovi, Munias and Mangona. Upon completion observed Council tax collection, and then held general discussions with village people until 4 pm.
- 1/8/69
Friday
- 8.00 am Walked to Romeina.
- 8.20 am Arrived Romeina and conducted census of Romeina, Sipurei and half of Peiwana. Observed tax collection, and then unsuccessfully attempted general discussion. Very unco-operative. Returned to Mangona.
- 2/8/69
Saturday
- 8.00 am Started walking to Peiwana but picked up by PWD truck.
- 9.30 am Conducted census of the Peiwana people that were not censused yesterday, after which conducted general discussion.
- 11.00 am Walked to Keronira Roman Catholic Mission and discussed various topics with Father Duffy. Returned to Mangona.
- 2.30 pm ADC Grant, Mrs Grant and PO Walsh visited patrol at Mangona, then returned to Kieta.
- 3/8/69
Sunday
- Afternoon spent on general discussions with Councillor Nikola.
- 4/8/69
Monday
- 8.00 am Departed Mangona and travelled to Darumai Society. From Society travelled to Iori.
- 9.00 am Conducted census of Iori, followed by general discussions.
- 11.00 am Travelled to Ivi Plantation for discussions with Manager. From Ivi, travelled to Pirineiu.
- 4.00 pm Discussions with Pirineiu and Nabua men on road work allocation.
- 5/8/69
Tuesday
- 9.00 am General discussion with Councillor Piau and two other Pirineiu men.
- 2.00 pm Convened meeting to discuss road work.
- 6.00 pm Settled two minor disputes by arbitration.
- 6/8/69
Wednesday
- 7.14 am Departed Pirineiu and walked to the cacao fermentary where collected by ADC Grant, Mrs Grant

and PO Laming and travelled to Toimanapu Plantation. From Toimanapu walked to Taki for a meeting with the Taki people; walked through Anapo to Siorovi for discussions with assembled Siorovi and Anapo people; walked to Pondona, thence to Minani and Kekere Plantation.

Returned to Icri village to discuss road work with the leader of the dissident faction, and then returned to Kieta, thus completing the patrol.

patrol was a lesson in the importance of the principles of local government and the factors that govern development of an area - to wit capital expenditures

.....

Local Government was one of the main topics discussed on this patrol, and although complaints against the rise in council tax were widespread, no apparent difficulty was experienced in finding money for taxation purposes, as the per capita income figure for the area shows that ample revenue exist to obtain the required \$10,000. Most of the complaints centered on the fact that insufficient consultation with the local population was arranged before the tax rate was raised.

In spite of this, the Kieta Local Government Council is favored in the majority of the villages, although complaints concerning insufficient capital works development were voiced at Naugwa. Councillor Nihala is hardly a champion for the cause of local government and most of the dissatisfaction appears to have been disseminated by him. His main complaint is frustrated ambitions and his strength in the area has led to a faction forming that believes that the Council is doing insufficient in the Province. The fact that Councillor Nihala had added no constructive help to the activities organization was ignored by Nihala and his band.

In the Tolima villages the young people are very interested in what they can do themselves to obtain help from the Council, which is an encouraging sign. Assistance was requested in all

SITUATION REPORT

POLITICAL

1. Local Government

The most noticeable point on this patrol was a lack of a clear understanding of the principles of local government and the factors that govern development of an area - to wit capital expenditure.

Local Government was one of the main topics discussed on this patrol, and although complaints against the rise in council tax were widespread, no apparent difficulty was experienced in finding money for taxation purposes, as the per capita income figure for the area shows that ample avenues exist to obtain the required \$10.00. Most of the complaints centred on the fact that insufficient consultation with the local population was arranged before the tax rate was passed.

In spite of this, the Kieta Local Government Council is favoured in the majority of the villages, although complaints concerning insufficient capital works development were voiced at Mangona. Councillor Nikola is hardly a champion for the cause of local government and most of the dissatisfaction appears to have been disseminated by him. His main complaint is frustrated ambitions and his strength in the area has led to a faction forming that believes that the Council is doing insufficient in the Koromira. The fact that Councillor Nikola had added no constructive help in the estimates preparation was ignored by Nikola and his band.

In the Koianu villages the young people are very interested in what they can do themselves to obtain help from the Council, which is an encouraging sign. Self-help was expounded in all

villages as the major contribution the people can give towards strengthening both their own position and the Kieta Council.

The attitude of the older generation remains as a "wait and see" outlook which will achieve nothing constructive unless they can be coerced into active participation.

The Koromira people are the first to state that they were the first to support the formation of the Kieta Council and they believe that they should receive preferential treatment for this great display of trust and co-operation. What form this preferential treatment is to take has not been stated, and in all probability the coastal people do not know themselves, as they have a main vehicular road, adequate water supply, and a Council constructed Aid Post at Sirowai.

The Koianu people are very interested in road development and are at present seeking assistance for a road to Taki from Toiumonapu based on a self-help programme.

Another complaint against the Kieta Local Government Council is that the Councillors do not discuss Council activities enough with their constituents. This is partly due to a disinterested attitude in the main, and to the Councillors themselves not knowing what is going on as the Councillors attendance rate at Council meetings leaves much to be desired.

Greater co-operating and education at the village level is the obvious answer as the people themselves are the back-bone of any council, and without an interested public, the Council becomes just an ineffective arm of the Administration.

2. Cultist Thought

The village of Pondona has previously been reported as being a haven for "cultist" thought, and the Pondona "army" was watched for a period of time to ascertain the strength and bounds of their activities.

During 1969 two patrols have visited the area prior to this patrol and both reported very little activity by the Pondona villagers.

The bulk of the village people are at present living on the coast at Matang and although the attitude of these people is still one of suspicion mingled with a general unco-operativeness, there appears to be no suspicious activities being carried out and the people seem to have realised that agricultural activity is the answer to development in the area.

At least five men from other sub-districts are resident at Pondona at this time but very little could be gleaned as to the purpose of the sojourn apart from the fact that one man is from Damu village in the No. 1 Kongara and one is from a village in the hills behind Rigu Mission Station.

Information gleaned throughout the area was that little, if any, political activity is being carried out in Pondona at this time.

The reputed leader, Paul Mena (Ameri Pongaram) again vanished to the bush for the duration of the patrol.

3. House of Assembly and Independence

Very little comment was made of either matters relating to the House of Assembly or to Independence on this patrol.

The Koianu people and Sirowai people stated that Independence at this stage would be a farce, as the

people were obviously not ready for Independence, but on the other hand, Councillor Nikola, from Mangona, fleetingly stated, whilst referring to another topic, that all of the people in his ward favoured Independence. No actual questions concerning the House of Assembly or Independence were asked on the patrol.

Talks on the House of Assembly raised little comment, and the more important local issues of land acquisition was the foremost thought in most peoples minds, although no doubt the House of Assembly also creates thought through being given a good coverage of proceedings on the radio stations.

4. Political Education

Political education continued on this patrol and it was found that news broadcasts and Radio Bougainville bulletins created more discussion and interest than did printed literature.

Mr. Newmans speech and discussions with the Arawa and Rorovana people created the most interest and it was apparent that a large percentage of the population heard this programme. Sympathy generally lies with the Arawa and Rorovana people although most of the people proved receptive to the Administration point of view.

The number of radios in the area currently number 75, so it is obvious that the radio is proving popular, and is probably the most effective means of communication available for political education, although it was again noted that misinterpretation in some instances has created confusion.

ECONOMIC

1. Trade Stores

There are at present 17 trade stores in

the Koromira, 12 of these being owned by individual village people.

Particulars of locations are recorded hereunder:

Siorovi	2
Matana	2
Sirowai	2
Sipurei	1
Romeina	1
Peiwana	1
Iori	1
Toiumonapu Plant.	1
Kekere Plant.	1
Iwi Plant.	1
Koromira R.C. Miss.	1
Darumai Producers Co-op.	1
Total:	17

The last five stores listed are the larger of the stores in the area, although the Romeina store is quite well stocked also, being the best of the indigenous owned stores.

2. Cash Cropping

Figures from the Department of Agriculture 1968-69 Annual Report for the Kieta Sub-District show that the total plantings of cacao number 84,792, and the total plantings of coconuts number 101,198, within the Koromira Census Division. This is an increase of 8578 cocoa trees and 5477 coconuts palms from the same period last year.

As recorded in the Area Study, the copra production for the year was in excess of 312 tons, and the cacao production, including the villages of Tavatava and Pirineiu, totalled 54.5 tons for the same period.

The Department of Agriculture Annual Report states that the Koromira is capable of producing some 250 tons of cacao, however at the present rate of growth, 10-12 years will be required to reach this mark.

Due to the lack of vehicular access to Taki, much cacao is not being utilised, as the people have had experience of carrying the beans to Toiunonapu Plantation and finding that the Darumai Society tractor has failed to arrive, thus the beans rot and have to be thrown away. As the Koianu people have recently purchased a truck, this situation should improve.

Copra production in this area is nearing its peak, but in the actual Koromira villages, as against the Koianu villages, copra production is being neglected in favour of cacao production.

The villages of Tavatava and Pirineiu are good examples of this, and literally thousands of shot nuts can be seen whilst travelling along the Pirineiu road. Cacao production in this area is high.

The Darumai Producers Co-operative has supplied figures, as recorded in the Department of Agriculture Annual Report, that show that copra production over the last two years has increased by 59%, and the cacao production has increased by 117%. The increase for copra compares favourably with increases recorded in other census divisions, but the percentage increase for cacao production is lower than other areas have recorded.

Market gardening at present has not attracted much interest as the market is on the boundary of the division whereas the majority of the coastal villages are in the middle of the division, thus the question of transportation arises. However, if the C.R.A. market was to be held at a village within the Koromira, e.g. Mangona, interest

would be high and vegetable production would become a major money earner for the area. The vegetables grown would be native vegetables rather than introduced vegetables, apart from the Koianu area which could possibly support introduced crops, being at a slightly higher altitude than the coastal villages.

3. Roads

Kieta - Toimanapu Road

The main Kieta Toimanapu road runs along the coast linking all coastal villages, and although previous patrol patrols have reported that all claims for economic trees destroyed in the construction of the road had been lodged, claims were again lodged with this patrol. Four of the claims lodged appear genuine and are being investigated, but other claims appear to be attempts to obtain money under false pretences.

Questions were asked concerning the placement of cement pegs along the Toimanapu road, and this question obviously relates to the common fear amongst the people that these pegs are an attempt by the Administration to acquire the land by foul means. It was asked of the patrol whether these pegs could be; a) taken out all together, and b) moved closer to the road to take in only those trees actually acquired by the Administration. It was previously reported by P.O. Wellington that the people were initially informed that the Administration would acquire all those economic trees within the surveyed lines, but that it was subsequently decided only to purchase those trees that were actually destroyed, as the local people were reluctant to sell the land to the Administration for the road. This policy change is sited as yet another of the Administrations lies to the people, and the people are not receptive to reason on this point, as they consider that they are being 'tricked' out of their money. The move to remove the pegs and relocate them on the edge of the road stems from this point.

A policy decision on this matter appears to be urgently required as these pegs are a source of contention and

antagonism at the moment, which should be rectified if a firm decision is made and conveyed to the people on whether this land is to be acquired or not. If the former is the case and the people are still reluctant to sell, steps should be taken so that the Road Maintenance Ordinance 1953-64 could be enforced and the villages bordering the road be required to maintain the road to see how just how reluctant to sell, when work on the road is the alternative, the people are. If the latter is the case, and the Administration is no longer interested in acquiring the land, there appears to be no reason why the pegs could not be relocated on the edge of the road and so remove the fear of acquisition of economic trees by the Administration with no compensation.

Toimanapu - Taki Road

The people from Taki village again expressed their desire to construct a feeder road from Toimanapu Plantation to Taki, and the Amapo and Siorovi village people have stated that they would be willing to help construct this road, providing that the Taki people agree to help them to construct a feeder road to Siorovi village at a later date.

Enquiries in reference monetary assistance for surfacing the road were forthcoming, and the people were informed that, provided the work on the road proceeded in a satisfactory manner, the question of monetary consideration would be investigated, but it was stressed that no promises of monetary assistance could be made at this stage.

The road itself will not be difficult to construct provided that sufficient interest in the construction can be maintained, as the proposed route is relatively straight and flat, although an adequate system of drains will need to be constructed to drain the road, as the water table is very shallow and consequently much of the road is very swampy. With a DDA Officer supervising work for a week or so, these drains could be easily constructed as a small ~~river~~ ^{rivulet} runs along one side of the proposed route a short distance from the road.

Pirineiu - Tavatava Road

As stated in the accompanying Patrol Instructions,

one of the purposes of the patrol was to discuss work on the Pirineiu road.

Two meetings were held at Pirineiu to discuss this participation and the people proved receptive to the idea of upgrading the road and had in fact started work on the road previous to the arrival of the patrol.

One development that was unexpected however, was the peoples refusal to accept any 'payment' from the Administration for this work, as the peoples considered opinion is that this is a plot to acquire all the surrounding land under the guise of monetary assistance for the work. It was repeatedly stated that this money was assistance given to the Council through the Rural Development Committee and the money would be used to hire vehicles to carry material with which to surface the road. It was emphatically denied that any monetary assistance had an ulterior motive, and it was stated that the bulk of the work would be done by the people themselves. The assistance was rejected. ARAVOI KONGA of Pirineiu and BIANSI PIAU of Nabuia are the leading lights in the rejection movement.

At the second meeting the following day this topic was again discussed and Councillor Piau of Pirineiu tried to reason with the people but again monetary assistance was rejected.

The following day I asked ARAVOI KONGA to discuss this matter with the ADC Mr. Grant, which he duly did, and after being informed that the Taki people wanted the money for the Toimanapu - Taki road, Aravoi decided that it might be better if this money is spent on the Pirineiu road after all.

At this stage Councillor Piau is suffering somewhat from the feeling of shame that he experienced by being beaten by Aravoi in winning the peoples vote on this subject, and on three occasions since the return of the patrol to Kieta, I have tried to reason with Councillor Piau and get him to show an interest in the work, but to date he appears to be uninterested in the work as he wishes his opponents to try to do the organising and fail so that he will be on top again. His feelings are changing however, and he will not need much more convincing to again organise the work. It would appear to be important to support Piau for a period

of time, as he is an intelligent Councillor, and one of the more pro-Administration members of the community. This project will need to be watched closely and if necessary liason between the factions organised, as the road was the pet project of Piau and its failure would be detrimental to the opinion Piau holds of himself, and the general situation of this village would deteriorate further.

(C) SOCIAL

1. Health

The Aid Post at Sirowai still requires minor work before it is completed and as the materials are on hand, it was suggested that this work be carried out in the near future.

Council water supply projects at Iori and Romeina still require guttering and this aspect will be discussed with the Kieta Local Government Council with a view to a speedy completion.

Although leprosy is evident in many villages, and malaria is still taking its toll of victims, the general standard of health is good, and large sores were not in evidence in any of the villages.

2. Rest Houses

Rest houses exist at Taki, Amapo, Siorovi, Minani, Sirowai and Mangona.

The Minani rest house has no police quarters and the rest house at Mangona has a very poor floor.

A rest house at Iori has fallen into a state of disrepair and there is no move afoot to renew it as it only serves 66 people and the general idea is to travel straight to Pirineiu.

3. Missions

Three Missions operate in the Koromira, namely;

1. Roman Catholic
2. United Church
3. Seventh Day Adventist

The bulk of the population profess to be Roman Catholic, and only one village, Sirowai, claim to be Seventh Day Adventist, and a section of the people from Siorove and Amapo claim to be United Church adherants.

As the Roman Catholic Mission has a Mission station at Koromira which is staffed by a European Father, better rein is held on the adherants than is the case in the Kongara.

Friction between adherants of the three different religions does not appear to be high at this time and little friction, with the exception of that instance reported under the Education heading, was noticed at any of the villages.

4. Education

As the Kieta Local Government Council has agreed to construct and operate a school near Toimanapu Plantation, a small feasibility survey was carried out to collect data relating to the probable number of children that could be affected, and the views of the people in relation to the opening of a school.

This school would serve the people of Taki, Amapo and Siorovi, and both Amapo and Siorovi are served by two Missions. It became obvious whilst discussing the possibility of starting a school that a degree of tension existed concerning the Religion of the school-teacher and the religion to be taught in the school. The general idea the Council has is to employ an ex Mission teacher who is resident at Siorovi, and it was pointed out to the people that the general purpose of the school was to teach reading and writing, but that the 'third R' was not religion.

Another complaint was that if the school is started then the Council will not subsidise road work in the area, and the people consider that road work is the key to economic development and therefore is more important than education.

I must admit at this stage that I have reservations concerning the building of a school, but not for the reasons recorded above. It must be concluded that unless there is

a genuine felt need for a school, (which there does not appear to be at present), the Council must be prepared to contribute more than its share if this project is to be successful. For this reason the people must be educated by patrolling officers and the Council to appreciate the benefits of education, and equally important, the benefits of an education at an early age.

Secondly, because of the limited resources of the Kieta Local Government Council and the availability of Mission schools, it might prove a better idea if this school only taught Standard 1 and Standard 2, after which the students would be old enough to progress to the Mission boarding schools for further education. Some arrangement with the United Church Mission and the Roman Catholic Mission would have to be reached in this respect.

Following are the numbers of children that at present are not attending school from the three villages affected;

Taki	8 m	2 f	10 total	Age 6-10
Amapo	11 m	8 f	19 total	Age 6-10
Siorovi	8 m	4 f	12 total	Age 6-10
			<u>41 total</u>	

(D) MISCELLANEOUS

1. Application for Store Keepers Licences

Refer File 38-3-4

2. Number of Shotguns

Hereunder is listed the number of shotguns held in each village;

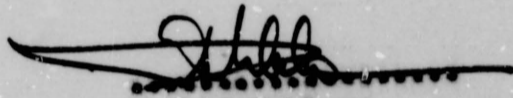
Siorovi	1
Sirowai	1
Peiwana	1

CONCLUSION

As all the objects of the patrol were completed, in this respect the patrol achieved its aims. The patrol was

quite enjoyable and very little anti-Administration sentiment was displayed by the village people against the patrol.

From viewing the tax collection in the Koromira, it was notified that most of the eligible tax payers paid their tax, and although the rise in tax created quite an amount of controversy, interest in the Council and in the Councils activities was relatively high.



P.J. Wohlers
Patrol Officer 16/8/69

RECEIVED
16/8/69