Thursday 29 January 1953

I filled in income tax blank.

Dorothy called at 11 A.M. Left for N.Y.C. 11:30 called for color pictures (for Australian friends).

To Museum about 12:30 P.M. Len Brass had unpacked latest Roberts collection — includes many study suits as well as flat Kangaroo suits. A large native cat from the "Big Tableland" near Cooktown, Cape York, is interesting.

T.D. Carter & G.H. Tate drove down to Pier 60, foot of W. 30 St. with Dorothy, Katherine & myself. Geoff & I have cabin on starboard side, main deck, aft. small but comfortable. People present:

Katherine, Dorothy, Bill Kissam, Len & Marie Brass, Rus Peterson, Henry & Marilyn Fortner, Mrs. (mother of Henry's wife), Henry's wife's sister; Miriam Tate.

A very pleasant going away party. Candy from Henry, book from Len, trip book from Marie, candy from Don Carter.

Ship supposed to sail at 5 P.M., then 8 P.M. finally at 8:35. Colgate clock at 8:53. Sky cleared and we saw moon coming out of total eclipse. The thrill of sailing never dulls. N.Y.C. is especially the statue of Liberty very lovely as we dropped down the harbor. Geoff in a very mellow mood.

12 passengers: 2 ladies, 1 English girl, 1 Scotch
2 Australians — men: 1 Canadian, 1 American, 1 British
1 ? Geoff & myself.
Friday 30 Jan. 1953

LAT. 27° 26' N, LONG. 75° 15' W. DIST. 196 M. STEAMING TIME 12 HRS. 40 MIN. AV. SP. 15.47. T. WIND N.W. 3 SEAS SMOOTH.

PASSED WINTER QUARTERS LIGHTSHIP AT ABOUT 10 A.M. OUR COURSE 215° (S.W.) 6 MILES OFF LIGHT. 25 MILES OFF SHORE. MANY GANNETS IN AREA. 30-40 H. GULLS FOLLOWING SHIP.

AT 11:15 A.M. 2 SMALL WHALES ON A N.E. COURSE - PARALLEL TO SHIP (TO STARBOARD), BLOWING 3-4 X 3 MINUTE FOR SEVERAL MINUTES; SLOW SHALLOW ROLL (NOTHING LIKE THE ARCHED ROLL OF PORPOISES). COLOR - A BROWNISH-BLACK WITH ALMOST A LAVENDER TINGE (NOT A BLUE TONE). ROLL ALMOST COMPLETED BEFORE DORSAL FIN APPEARED. NOT LARGE, LONGER THAN WIDEBN RATIO OF ABOUT 2:1 ANGLE OF RATE 35°-40°. SHAPE OF BLOW SPRAY NOT WELL DEFINED (NO WIND) BUT BLOW STARTED BEFORE BLOW HOLE CLEAR OF WATER. LOW AND ROUNDED. SIZE DIFFICULT TO JUDGE, BUT CERTAINLY IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF 40'. NO GANNETS AT 11:30; HOWEVER 5 OFF + ON FOR REST OF DAY.

DOCKED AT NEWPORT NEWS, VA. AT 6 P.M. CUT PATH OF THE CAPE CHARLES-CAPE HENRY FERRY. BONAPARTE'S GULLS, KITTINAMES, GANNETS 10-12 LARGE FLOCKS OF RED-BREASTED MARGANSERS FLYING N.W. OVER BOUNDS. GR. BLACK-BD. GULLS. PASSED VERY NARROW OPENING IN HARBOR PROTECTIVE NET. AIRCRAFT CARRIER "CORAL SEA" AT DOCK. "LIVERPOOL ROVER," TOULON, FYSINGA MARU PASSED US IN BOUNDS. BEAUTIFUL SUNSET OF DULL FLAME ORANGE SEGMENTED BY LOW DARK CLOUDS. WENT UPTOWN, SENT OFF POSTCARDS TO K., MOTHER, DOT., & DORY. WALKED AS FAR AS N.N. SHIPBUILDING & DRY DOCK CO. WATCHED BASKETBALL GAME IN RECREATION HALL. THE "UNITED STATES" BUILT AT N.N. SHIP LOADING SPECIAL PAPER FOR SHELLS. MUCH LEAF TOBACCO IN WOODEN DRUMS ON WHARF. SUPPOSED TO SAIL AT 1 A.M. BUT DIDN'T.
SATURDAY 31 JAN. 1953

LAT. 36°-13' N. LONG. 75°-28' W. DISTANCE 53 Ml.
STEERING TIME 3 HR. 30 MIN. AV. SP. 15.14 K. WIND S.E. 2
SEAS SLIGHT.

SAILED 6:30 A.M. DULL DAY RAIN SPITS MANY
BONAPARTES GULLS + A FEW GANNETS OUT NEAR PILOT SHIP.
ALSO A SCHOOL OF 30-50 PORPOISES. RAIN SQUALLS FOR
REST OF DAY. RUNNING DOWN TO CAPE HATTERAS ON
COURSE 170°. PASSED HATTERAS LIGHT ABOUT 5 P.M.
NEW COURSE 217°. SCATTERED GANNETS. WROTE TO
HERMANO DANIEL. SLEPT MOST OF AFTERNOON. A FEW
MORE DAYS + I WILL BE COMPLETELY RELAXED. I ONLY
WISH THAT I HAD INSISTED THAT I SAIL WITH ME. WE
HAVE SEVERAL SICK PASSENGERS TODAY. BLOWING UP A BIT
BUT NOT TOO MUCH MOTION. FOOD HAS BEEN GOOD
BUT TOO MUCH OF IT. MILK TWICE A DAY (NOT AT NIGHT).  
GEOFF AND I ARE STARTING TO EASE UP ON MEALS. ONE
OF THE ENGINEERS (USED TO WORK FOR CHRYSLER) - HUNGARIAN-
TALKED WITH ME FOR AN HOUR ABOUT COMMUNISM, AMERICAN FACTO-
RIES + PAPUAN NATIVES (HE HAD PICTURES FROM PT. MORESBY).
STUDIED REPORT ON SHAW MEYER'S MAMMAL COLLECTING
IN N.G. ALSO READ CAPE YORK REPORT.

CAPT. Peder Eriksen

CHIEF MATE Harlan L. Wadleigh

2ND MATE James M. Walsh, Jr.

Donald J. Penniall

James E. Peifer
Sunday 1 February 1953

Course 217º

Clear, beautiful day. Horizon clear to W., N., + N.E. Strato-cumulus to E., S., & S.W. A few rain squalls in sight to S.E. We are in The Gulf Stream - patches of weed in sight. Air soft & warm. Sprinkling of white caps. Wind out of the W. A few herring gulls with ship (2-3. 2nd yr; 3-3. Ad). First jaeger (sp?) in sight close to ship 9:15 A.M. Followed for a few minutes Rested on water several times (with us 1/2 hr.) - white streakings at base of inner 1ºs, wh. underpt. Wh up sides of neck, bleach on median neck line, size 15-16" low over waves. Very difficult to get distrib. of whereabouts No ships in sight all morning. (11 A.M. 3 1st yrs. 1 Ad. H. gulls) No. Gannets today. First. Flying fish at noon (7:1 M. 1Add. H.G.) More jaegers in sight just at dusk sooping over ship. Wrote letters. Then talked about ships, shipping and oil companies with one of the engineers until 2:30 A.M. Also looked at Kodachromes of Brisbane + other Australian cities taken by one of radio men; good pictures of koalas at Lone Pine Park.

4:30-5:30 P.M. Watch. Bill Rogerson

"About 5: P.M. Florida will be 185 mi. W. of ship. It may be as late as noon tomorrow when Fl. is sighted - Jupiter Light (200 mi. S. of Jacksonville) per Mr. Peifer."
Monday 2 February 1953

Overcast, Fla. In sight at 6:30 A.M. (at least). Laughing Gull added to our list of ship followers. It became more numerous as we closed on coast. We are running well in (less than a mile at times). 74° F at 12:30. Six or more Sooties joined us for a couple of hours, soaring overhead, low over waves and occasionally resting on water. Much variation in plumage: some with much mottling on rump and all the way up back, some white underneath, some dark; some with dark of head completely isolated by buffy neck + nape feathers. None with really well-developed central tail feathers (most - 1/4 or 1/3 total length) some with splodges of white in 2's. About or slightly smaller than Laughing Gull. Blowling out of the S.E. passing Miami at 11:30 p.m. Passed West Palm Beach at about 9:30 p.m. Many fishing boats off shore. About 1 Gannet/1000. Now only about 45 miles from Bimini. Wonder how Van Vroost is doing on his Bahama Exp.? Saw what appeared to be a large Tern - confirmed; 2 more (Caspian or Royal) could not see 1's well - sliced by ship - blowing hard. Off Key West at 7:30 p.m. Course 235° My first time in the Gulf. Watch says we will be too early for Mardi Gras. Venus very bright. Still passing Keys at 11:30 p.m.

Man on watch from Boston. Makes ship models.

Lat. 26° 10' N  Steaming time 25 hrs.  Total time:
Course - various  Wind S.E. 3
Dist. 364 miles  Sea S.E. slight

New Orleans 646 mi.
Newport News 725 mi.
Tuesday 3 February 1953

Course 302° Bright, clear, nearly cloudless day. We are in the Gulf of Mexico - water blue + patches of Gulf Stream weed. Air is soft but there is still a touch of northern winter in the breeze. Calm sea, only an occasional white cap. We have a morning escort of at least 10 Jaegers, patiently following Capt. Eriksen says we will be steaming up the Mississippi tomorrow A.M. About 100 mi. up to New Orleans. Walked up to the bow about 10:30 A.M. A _Dolphin_ came in from Dead Ahead & swam under our bow for about a minute. 3 others joined it. Nose pointed, blow-hole round, color of pale liver brown above, small flukes. Small Portuguese Men of War floating by, usually small fish associated with their streamers (saw them just before bow wave hit). 5 minute count - 19 in a 150' front, from bow. Glimpse of a shark as he rolled his white belly near surface. Count of Jaegers up to 18. 2 or 3 Herring Gulls. At 11:30 P.M. Breeze dying, sea smooth, Mackerel city. Jaegers left in early P.M. 2 or 3 Gannets
WED. H. FEB. 1953

Off Entrance to Mississippi River soon after dawn. Brown pelicans flying past. Comorants (D. Cr. or Mex. ?); loon; ring-billed gulls; R. or C. Tern; small terns; sea ducks; shore birds (all too distant). Soon after passing channel entrance saw white pelicans sitting on drift logs and swimming in little bays either side of channel. Flock of 100+ black shimmers; snow geese; blue geese; pintails; mallards; egrets; G. B. Herons; swallows; even 1 duck hawk sitting on channel light; crows + boat-tailed grackles. Fewer birds as we passed inland. Passed oil rigs from time to time. Few ships. Feels very strange to be cruising up muddy Mississippi at full speed on board ocean-going freighter. 2nd pilot came on board about 5 mi. upstream. Levees line river—many homes below level of river. Napped in P.M. Approached New Orleans at sunset. Wharfs line winding river on both sides. Great variety of ships + funnels. We docked at Celeste Street Wharf. Geoff + I walked up to Canal St. (main street in N.O. — starts at River + runs N.W.) — about 1 1/2 mi. Wonderful docking + R.R. facilities. Geoff returned to ship. I looked in book stores until 11:30 P.M. + then walked into old N.O. the Latin Quarter — Rue Royal. Many high class antique stores. Crossed over to Bourbon St. — white way with many bars with song + dance acts. Back to ship about 11:30 P.M. Geoff and I saw C. Chaplin in "Limelight". Wonderful. Laughed until I cried, at one sequence with C. C. Y Buster Keaton.
THURS. 5 FEB. 1953

In Port - loading machinery (including a weed-burner) + tractors for Australia. Geoff + I to town in A.M. to do errands. Made reservation for 4 at Antoine's. Lunch on board. To town in P.M. to take pictures + visit antique shops. Saw opal bracelet for $4.50. - All items expensive. Visited Presbytère where they have small museum of N.H. including a habitat group of Louisiana black bears. Early work of Bailey who is now at Denver Museum of N.H. I met a Mrs. Fairman who is artist at museum. It was closing time (4:30) so she walked me over to plantation book store + introduced me to Mr. + Mrs. Leisure (they know Col. Deas of Charleston). After browsing for a while I talked with them + was introduced to Mrs. Anne Shelley - turned out that she lives in Medellin! Tells me that Fagans have been transferred (where?) knew many of our friends. Flying back soon. Met Geoff, Alice Dickinson + "Midge" Colquhoun at Antoine's Res. at 6 P.M. A most wonderful dinner ($6 for 4) on the Exp. Oysters a la Rockefeller, Shrimp, Baked Pompano (in paper bag with sauce), Cherry Jubilee, Chablis wine + anisette, almost 3 MRS. AT TABLE. Met Tim (Chief Mate) at Hotel Roosevelt. Danced until 1:30 A.M. Good music. Feet tired.
Friday 6 Feb. 1953

To N.O. About 10:30 A.M. Wrote postcards until noon. Lunch - Crab Cake, Milkshake & Orange Juice. Walked down Royal St. Looking in Antique Shops. Bought some very good macaroons & candied ginger. Went to Plantation Book Shop where I picked up 2 more books for the trip (H. Ward - "C. Darwin"; Maury - "Phy. Geo. of Sea"). Also 8 other books which I had sent home. Made me a present of "Cross Creek" by M.K. Rawlings. Book on Ostrich Farming in S. Africa (with Chap on Meerkats); another on the Raptors of Gr. Britain & Ireland by Tardine; Mrs. Leisure also threw in a libretto of "Martha" as "Lagnappe" for Dory. (The French for something extra - the idea of the "Bakers Dozen").
Sat., 7 Feb. 1953

Course 288° at 2 P.M.

Running west to the Texas Gulf port of Beaumont. Blanket overcast with occasional misty squall closing in. 20 odd gulls following. Took M. F. Maury out to read - The Physical Geography of the Sea. It is fascinating to read of this work that was organized by Maury more than 100 yrs. ago. And this morning Capt. Eritson says offhandly that "Oh, we know all about ocean currents now." Here is a man with no scientific curiosity. Maury says "I am wedded to no theories, I do not advocate the doctrines of any particular school. Truth is my object." His opening sentence "There is a river in the ocean" - and then follows a wonderful chap on the Gulf Stream. "The Gulf of Mexico is its fountain".

How interesting that I find this book, that I am in the G. of M. and that the new issue of "Life" contains the article on the sea. Course 6: P.M. 286°. Picked up pilot off Port Arthur breakwater about 7:30 P.M. Passed town of Pt. A. at 9:30. Fractionating columns with their Christmas tree lights are scattered all over the landscape. Oil fumes strong. A clear red sunset after a blue sky afternoon. One freighter silhouetted against red sky with a wisp of gulls trailing off astern. Laughing gulls joined ship. Caspian or Royal Tern passed. 60 odd gulls at one time.

Lt. 28° 55' N; Lg. 91° 51' W. Dist. 133 mi. St. T. 8° 25 M; Av. Sp. 15.79 Kt.; Wd. N.W.; Sea slight- n.
In Beaumont.
Docked at 12:30 A.M. An arrow squeeze between a Lykes Freighter & a lighter. Pilot, Avice, Midge + I were invited to Captain's quarters for a sherry. Capt. Erikson has furnished his sitting room very tastefully: sectional couch, tooled leather (Lima, Peru) coffee table & curtains. Unmarried, makes ship his home. Talked in Jim's cabin (Chief mate) until 2 A.M. Ship's heat turned on - cabin was hot as an oven. Felt like a baked Pompano this a.m. Drank a qt. of milk and glasses of fruit juice. Walked to town (1/2 mile) phoned Kay at 10 A.M. No answer; found her in at 4:15 P.M. She had mother with her - dinner at M.G.C. Good connection. had a good orange juice. Sat in sun with gang from ship. Went back for more orange juice & wrote a few post cards. To ship for lunch. Wrote to Mr. Milne about investing pesos in Cia. Col. de Tab. Up town to mail letters & phone Kay. Met Chief Engineer & we had an orange juice. To ship for dinner. Took bow-on picture of S/S P. Glen. Midge, Avice + I walked over to Norwegian Freighter "Tasco" (All ship's names start with "T") - run between Mexico, Gulf Ports & Norway. Knocked on Captain's door the very graciously showed us about ship. 12 passengers. Quarters much more comfortable than ours + tastefully decorated, but officers eat & live separately from passengers. Ship immaculate. We are to due to sail for Houston at 8:15 P.M. Oil smell pervades ship & town. Loaded 2355 drums of lubricating oil for Freemantle.
Mon. 9. Feb. 1953

8:15 A.M. Course 317° (N.W.) Running along coast from Beaumont to Houston, in narrow dredged channel, miles of shallow water on all sides, in sight of land. Many laughing gulls - nearly all with dark breeding season heads; a few H. gulls; 1 cormorant. An occasional oil-well rig in water. 8:45 Course 330° meeting outgoing tankers - passing very close! (At full speed) One fishing smack cut across bows & we had to reduce speed - the bridge was mad. Just passed sand bar with 200 + white pelicans. 15:20 Brown. Get into air very easily. 10:00. Passing old battleship Texas & San Jacinto monument. Approaching Shell refinery - smells like a burned breakfast. Another 100 + white pelicans on a bar. Pintails + other ducks in air.
In Houston.
Wed. 11 Feb. 1953

At Houston.
Thurs 17 Feb. 1953

At Houston. Clear + cold. Finished loading.
Uptown to visit Zoo + Natural History Museum.
Primate House is a beauty. I arrived at 9:30 but one of keepers let me in + showed me around. Good assortment of Baboons; 2 good Chimps. Automatic heat control - Natural gas. Air conditioning in summer.
Bonnet Monkey impressive. Zoo in large park area to west of Houston (Herman Pit - 15 min. by bus from center).
Good Seal Pool. Several bird enclosures with cypress trees (and hinees). Park is in fine. Robins in large flocks.
N.H. Mus. is old one level building filled with junk. Few eye-level habitat groups with colored photograph back grounds. Poor. Gift shop manned by Jr. Leaguers. Teacher, Mr. Smith - young + enthusiastic. Director - Mr. Vans (sp?)
Told of plans for new 100,000 museum in diff. location. Also botanical garden + aquarium. Spring is just touching the Gulf Coast. Back to ship by bus - just in time - 10 min. to spare.


Saw 2 groups of white pelicans - 500-600 all told. Also a flock of skimmers. Laughing gulls along channel.
Only a few ring-bills + H. gulls. 1 dark 1° tern (large) bill not red yet. Many ducks in every shallow, also gr. bl. herons + Am. egrets.
Fri. 13 Feb. 1953

8:30 A.M. Course 128° Densely packed Strato-cumulus East
Wind kicking over a few white caps. Rather cold. At least 2
Dozen H. Gulls following; 2+ Jaegers (one sooty wh. other dark
underparts). No ships in sight. Dry bulb temp. 62°F wet 55°.
A lonely course. Have seen no ships today. At 5:30 there
were at least 10 (possibly 12 or more) Jaegers following
ship. At noon there were only 3. They often rest on
water. Green & then overtake ship. Noon today (sun
time on ship) was at 12:18 P.M. Course at 6:30 127°
Wind falling. Very little motion to ship today.
lat. 25°58' N; lg. 90°58' W Course 136° T
Dist. by obs. 281 mi. Steaming time 18 hr. 45 min.
To Cristobal 1214 mi. - Houston 281 mi.

Sky cleared & sun out strong about 2:30 P.M.
Fire drill in P.M. Captain's inspection this A.M.

Herring Gull with oil streak on underparts following us most of P.M. Don't know when Jaegers joined
us. Slop chest open tonight for crew & passengers

Food continues good. Milk at breakfast & lunch.
Salt mackerel gave me a real thirst today. Geoff bought
a case of gin from ships bonded store; he really
likes his cocktails. Sleeping very well. Napped
this A.M. Almost in center of Gulf tomorrow, off
Yucatan soon. Pass fairly close.
Sat. 14 Feb. 1953

Course 180° Clear, Horizon clouds. Wet bulb 73° F. Dry 77°

No motion. 8: A.M. No birds

11:30 A.M. Wind strong from S. Pitching slightly.
Blue-hulled Schooner crossing our wake on an easterly course. No birds. Puffy cumulus clouds overhead.

12:10 M. 2 jaggers in sight. Very dark, 1 light underpts.
Course changed to 136°. Just 30 miles off the coast of Yucatan. A hot sun all afternoon but the strong breeze made it very pleasant. Had my shirt off for a half hour. Most of the passengers were sun bathing.

Have started to slow up on eating. Food continues very good. Soon after sunset we passed a United Fruit Passenger ship on a north bound course, probably for New Orleans. Wind dying down.

Read until about midnight. Talk is that we will not reach Panama until Tues. A.M.

Lat. 22° 00' N. Long. 86° 33' W. Course 134° T
Dist. by Obs. 341 St. Time 24 Hrs. Av. Sp. 14.2 n
Wind SE H Sea SIE. SLG. T.T. 1D 18H 45M
Cristobal 843 Houston 622
Sun. 15 Feb. 1953

Course 138°. Flat sea. Little breeze, no whitecaps. A quiet morning. Geoff and I are reading on the flying bridge. Sun not high enough to drive us down.

11:30 A.M. Have been timing flying fish. 1 out of water 27 seconds by count. Another paralleled course of ship for 3 sec. + held even :) Dist. traveled = 557 ft (using 15 knots as speed of ship). The 2.2 sec. fish was 10-12” long. Have been reading Henshaw Ward’s “Charles Darwin” this A.M. It is giving me a better insight into his work and the state of scientific thought early in the 19th century than any book I have ever read.

Temp. 11:45 P.M. 73°F wet; 81°F dry. Ships noon 11:45 A.M.
Lat. 17°-55’ N; Long. 82°-53’ W. Course 140° T.
Wind S E.; Sea S E. Slight. Total Time 30.18 H 45 Min.
To Cristobal 552; — Houston 943 mi.

3:15 P.M. Course 144°-145°. Gannet flew over ship (Easterly)
Black 1°5 ft 2°6.

Wrote letters. Studied stars. Moon a thin crescent; set about 7:30. Venus has been very bright & makes a light path on sea. The North Star is sinking & Orion is almost overhead.
Mon. 16 Feb. 1953

Course 172° should be in neighborhood of Colombian Islands of San Andres & Providencia this morning. Changed course during night & we are rolling a bit this A.M. Moderate breeze. Few puffy cumulus clouds on horizon. No birds. Temp. 9 A.M. Wet 76° dry 81°. We will not pass within sight of islands - 50nm off. 9:50 First Man-of-War Bird over ship - soared away to W.

Lat. 13° 06'N; Long. 80° 27'W. H1st. by Obs. 32.8 mi. St. Time 24 Hr.; Ave. Sp. 13.66 K. Wind E3 S EA E slight. T.T. 3D 18 H 45 M. To Cristobal 224 - Houston 1271 M.

Continued from Page 20:

Shore drive with Trades blowing in from Bay. A lovely cool spot with lawn & rows of Royal Palms. Lawn full of Crab Holes. One path in grass lurch or so wide worn to bare earth by passage of leaf cutting ants. Many were carrying blades of grass. One ant traveled 16 feet in 5 min. along path. You can see these runs in grass at quite a distance. Street parades keep up until after dark. Had supper at Y.M.C.A. with some of crew. Played Ping Pong. Walked the streets for a while. No stores open on front street. Only the chip joints & bars open. Everyone very well behaved. Our ship's cook is a Panamanian. All shades of color. Back to ship with electrician about midnight.
TUES. 17 FEB. 1953

Panama in sight at 6:30 a.m. Fruit boat & Spanish
freighter ahead of us. Mountains shrouded in clouds.
A hazy sunrise. Coming in thru narrow breakwater
passage about 7:15. A dozen ships at anchor - saw first
ships flying the "Red Duster" (British merchant flag). We
had no birds following as we neared port. One Jaeger
outside; many laughing gulls inside, 2 or 3 Jaegers,
Frigate birds, Vultures, Caspian Tern. Tied up at very
modern oil & coal wharf. Town only 200 yds. away by water
but 3 miles by land! Mail came aboard (2+3 from Kay -
A Valentine; 2 from mother). Went birding ashore: catbird;
med. sized flycatchers (gray + yellow); small, white line over eye;
grey throat, yellow underparts; hummingbird & green highlights over
head, back & wings mixed w. brownish, long decurved bill
(2 x's head); med. size dove (soft pinkish brown); reddish bird
like cardinal; small dark bird - poor look at last birds. Found
small mud flat with small sandpipers, red dragonflies & gray
+ yellow flycatchers. Boat-tailed grackles on wharf. Little blue
heron on rocks. Spotted sandpipers - waterfront of Colon.
A line of leaf-cutting ants walking along railroad track.
Black termite nests in a few trees. Talked with gate man
for a few minutes (A conservationist at heart - feeds birds).
Wrote Kay another letter (have 14 letters to mail!).
Geoff & I taxied to town at 2:30 - to post office.
Today is last day of 4 Fiesta days. Geoff walked home.
I followed one group of singers, dancers, maracas &
native drum players for ½ mile. Keep wonderful rhythm.
All rigged in home-made costumes. Trucks full of
costumed children seeing the sights._walked along
WED. 18 FEB. 1953

TRANSITING THE PANAMA CANAL (ATLANTIC TO PACIFIC)
TUG SHOWED UP AT 7; BY MISTAKE AT 7:30 A.M. RUNNING AROUND MAKING SURE CREW IS ABOARD. SAILED AT 8 A.M.
FIRST LINE ABOARD - 3 STEP - GATUN LOCK 8:45. DIRECTION 189°
#1 STEP - START FILLING 8:59; FINISHED 9:05. #2 STEP - START 9:15; FINISH 9:21. #3 - START 9:30; FINISH 9:39. - AT LEVEL OF GATUN LAKE. CAST OFF 9:44. THEN TO OUR SURPRISE WE SWUNG AROUND TO ANCHOR (AT 10:05) IN GATUN LAKE. SOMETHING TO DO WITH LOCK CLEANING AT PACIFIC SIDE OF CANAL. CAPTAIN ORDERED LADDER OVER SIDE FOR SWIMMING. FIRST IN - WATER NEAR 80° + FRESH + CLEAR. SWAM UNTIL LUNCH TIME WITH GEOFF CREW & AYICE. WHILE WE WERE IN, THE "REINO DEL PACIFICO" CAME EAST. A BEAUTIFUL PASSENGER SHIP (FROM AUSTRALIA).
BEARING IN PEDRO MIGUEL LOCK 133°
" " " MIRAFLORES "S 137°
LEFT BALBOA 11:30 P.M. CANAL PILOT: CAPT. WHITE

SAILLED FROM GATUN ANCHORAGE AT 6:15 P.M. DELICATE COLORS IN SUNSET LIGHT UNTIL WE PASSED GAMBOA. LAUGHING GULLS FOLLOWING SHIP; AT TWILIGHT FLEW WEST, EAST, LOW & IN GROUPS. 1 NIGHTHAWK, 1 BROWN PELICAN, BLACK & TURKEY VULTURES, 1 CASPIAN TERN. AIR SOFT & FILLED WITH WONDERFUL FRAGRANCE (NIGHT CLEANER?). PASSED BARRO COLORADO WHILE LIGHT - JUNGLE LOOKS VERY TEMPTING. NO LIFE VISIBLE FROM SHIP. CALEDonia CUT VERY IMPRESSIVE LOOMING ON BOTH SIDES. PASSED ONLY 3 SHIPS. STILL DREDGING E. OR CUT. FIRST QUARTER MOON GAVE GOOD LIGHT.
GEOFF HAD LETTER FROM DR. TATE AT BALBOA

COURSES FROM ANCHORAGE: 180°; 72°; 127° (PAST B. COLORADO); 168°; 102°; 55°; 99°. 90° IS DUE EAST; 180° IS SOUTH.
Thurs. 19 Feb. 1953

8:30 Booby - upper wings & body - all brown; white underparts; whitish ground bill. 50+ laughing gulls following, none w. dark head. Also at least 1 zelens. Just leaving headlands of Gulf of Panama behind. Looks very mountainous. Course 240°. 10 a.m. have been in bow for 1/2 hr. - 2 small, long-winged birds (petrels?) dingy brownish-black all over, no sign of white; wing-flipping & darting like small night-hawk; close over waves. Another seemed to have black + white markings on head. Both species too distant. Met a freighter bound in to canal: "Condessa" - London - white Maltese cross + red band. Strong following wind. Clear, some cirrus in sky. Boat & fire drill at 10:20. Napped after lunch from 1:30 - 4:30. No ship motion.

Lat. 6° 27' N; Long. 81° 21' W. Dist. 201 mi.  
St. time 12 hr. 35 min. Av. Sp. 15.96. Wind N 4.  
Sea moderate N. Light airs + slight sea in P.M.  
To Brisbane 7504 mi.; to Balboa 2011.

6:15 P.M. Ran thru school of 150-200 small tuna. A great whirl of gannets (boobies?), frigate birds, shearwaters, petrels feeding in same area. At least 3 or 4 different kinds petrels (large bl. + white; med. + small bl. + wh.; small dark). Only 2 laughing gulls left; had disappeared by 9. Ice cream for dinner. (See menu.)

Slop chest open. Bought package of life-savers for N.G. Talked with various crew. All have read articles on natural history and have some interest but all have a stock of misinformation.
Fri. 20 Feb. 1953

Course 236°. Clear, some alto cumulus, low cumulus. Later in A.M. a rain squall or two. Sea glassy with an occasional moderate swell & a few wind paws. Just before breakfast 7:30 a giant ray or manta swam by our starboard side 15' off; could see tips of flippers breaking water & shape as he went by. Passed large school of tuna jumping 2-3 times length. 30+ boobies + shearwaters + small bl. + wh. petrels. boobies seem immature - pale blue bill (dark brown, pale bill, yellow? legs). Another school of tuna at 10. Also small turtle resting at surface. The tuna are quite spectacular leaping; some do barrel rolls in mid-air. Various small petrels at distance. I had white rumps (shape?).

Lat. 03°-15' N; Long. 87°-16' W Course 242°

Dist. by Obs. 402 St. Time 25 hr. Av. Sp. 16.08. 
Wind Var. 2-3 Sea slight N. Total Time 1-12-35
To Brisbane 7102 mi. from Balboa 603
Sat. 21 Feb. 1953

Lat. 00°-14'N; Long. 92°-33'W. Course 240°T
Wind N 2. Sea smooth. Total T. 2D 14H. 35 M.
To Brisbane 6735 from Balboa 970 M.

Today we crossed the equator at 1:55 P.M.
At 7:30 A.M. we passed a few miles north of Isabella Island of the Galápagos Arch. Height over 5000' so in sight most of A.M. - Tabletop shape. No detail. Birds were in sight all day today; also tuna schools and a few porpoises & small whales. Sea flat with a swell now & then. Storm petrels (1 every 2-3 min.) all about ship - white rump triangular shearwater type not common (4-5 per hour) - black above, wh. below - no good observations. One frigate bird in P.M. Several whirls of boobies (up to 85 mi. from ship). Not many bl & wh. (ratio about 1-5). Bl & wh. - 1° 42'05 S black, most of brown indiv. had blue bills. Most at long dist. from ship. Small petrels (few I could see) had a white rump; tails square or slightly formed. One whale leaped ½ - 1½ s out of water. Some tuna making tremendous leaps.

Geoff & Chief Mate had small cocktail party in P.M. Dancing on bridge deck aft from 7:10. Ship fairly stable. All passengers + a few officers. Read & slept in afternoon.

Isabella - Albemarle Island
SUN. 22 FEB. 1953

LAT. 2° 36' S; LONG. 97° 47' W. 241° True

DIST. 360 mi. ST. TIME 24 hrs. AVG. SP. 15,000 ft

WIND VR. 1-2 SEA SMOOTH - GENTLE SWELLS 5

TOT. TIME 3D 14 H 35 M. TO BRISBANE 6375 BAL. 1330

A VERY QUIET DAY AT SEA. A FEW STORM PETRELS (5-6); 2 LARGE PETRELS (SHEARWATERS). NO BOOBIES.

2. SCHOOLS OF TUNA. ONE WHALE (CUCO) OFF STARBOARD SIDE + SHOWN FROM Porthole. SMALL (30').

CAPTAIN INVITED ME TO HAVE AN AQUAVIT WITH HIM IN HIS CABIN AT 4:30. HE SHOWED ME NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ABOUT HIMSELF IN CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR & AUSTRALIAN PAPERS.

ONCE HAD OWN PLANE. LOVES FLOWERS (HAS FLOWER PRINTINGS ALL OVER SHIP). HE CAN HYPNOTIZE PEOPLE. USES THIS FOR MINOR SURGERY ABOARD SHIP. MAY GIVE DEMONSTRATION BEFORE END OF TRIP. SHOWED ME A PRESS PHOTO OF ONE SUBJECT WITH NEEDLE IN CHEEK - NO BLOOD! HAS SISTERS IN DENMARK. PLANS TO RETIRE IN 2 OR 3 YEARS. HAS A WONDERFUL HAMMOCK HE SLEEPS IN.

GEOFF DRINKING WITH FRIENDS UNTIL 4 OR 5 A.M., FELL ON FACE - BAD CUTS ON BRIDGE OF NOSE, CUT ON UPPER LIP, BRUISES ON FACE. NOTHING BROKEN.

DON'T MENTION TO MIRIAM TATE.
Mon. 23 Feb. 1953

Lat. 5°-24’S; Long. 103°-23’W. Course 249°
Dist. 376 mi. St. Time 24 hr. Av. Sp. 15.67 kts.
Wind S.E. 4. Sea slight S.E. Swells
Tot. H.D. 14 h. 35 m. To Brisbane 5999, Balboa 1706

Another quiet day broken only by light rain squalls. One Storm Petrel at 3 long-winged, long-tailed, slight birds approached ship but turned and paralleled ship for a few minutes about 1/2 mi. off. Tail appeared to be deeply forked. Flew lightly with wing beat hesitation of turns but did not seem quite right. Not tropic birds — did not have strong purposeful flight.

Read "Tales of South Pacific" a second time. Just as engrossing as first time. Also reading book by John Caldwell "Desperate Voyage". He was in crew under Capt. Eriksen during war. Sailed 29’ cutter alone to Fiji Islands.

Met a Porto Rican member of crew this a.m. Hobby is fishing — showed me all his gear.

Clocks retarded one hour tonight.
TUES. 24 FEB. 1953

LAT. 80°14'S, LONG. 109°02'W COURSE 243°

DIST. 379 Ml. ST TIME 25 HRS. AV. SP. 15.16 K

WIND SE 3-4, SEA S SLIGHT T. TIME 5D 15 H 35 M.

TO BRISBANE 5620 Ml. FROM BALBOA 2985 Ml.

BRIGHT SUNNY DAY WITH GENTLE S.E. TRADE
WINDS. LITTLE MOTION TO SHIP. READ & SLEPT
MOST OF DAY.

2 PETRELS IN A.M. BLACK (SPLOTCHY) ABOVE; W.H.
BELLOW + ON UNDER WING COVERTS. TOO FAR OFF
FOR DETAILS. MEDIUM SIZE 10-12".
Wed. 25 Feb. 1953

Temp. Wet 74°. Dry 80°. F. Clear. Sunny. No rain squalls. At 11:15 A.M. a tropic bird over stern of ship. Did not remain long enough for me to observe tail feathers. Distance from nearest land: Island - Jucie & Easter - 1020 mi. 100 - 200 miles further to Galapagos & Tuamoto Group. Same or another bird in P.M. Followed ship for about 1 hour, far off - could not see central tail feathers. (Possibly not present).

Lat. 11° 04'S; Long. 114° 27'W Course 242°
Dist. 345 mi. St. Time 24 hr. A.V. Sp. 15.21 K.
Wind S.E. 3-4. Sea S.E. slight. T.T. 62 15H 35M.
To Brisbane 5255 Hrs. From Balboa 2450 mi.

Moon almost full. No sunset color. Am learning a few of navigating stars each night. Whole schools of flying fish breaking water today. Read most of day. Keeping out of sun. Have a short talk with Captain each day. Found a crew member today who visits museums & zoos. Most people know of museum or have visited it within recent years. (Geoff & I decided today that if we go to Australia in future we will take Kay & Miriam with us as far as practical. Local hospitality will take care of them while we are off for a few weeks at a time.)
THURS. 26 FEB. 1953

TOMP. WET 76° DRY 90° HUMID. FOLLOWING WIND ABOUT SAME SPEED AS SHIP. ENGINE ROOM BLOWING STACKS IN A.M. SOOT ALL OVER FLYING BRIDGE.

POOR SUNSET. TALKED WITH CREW ON FORWARD WELL DECK FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS. THEN WITH 2ND ELECTRICIAN FOR A FEW HOURS—UNTIL MIDNIGHT. THEN ON BRIDGE WITH 3RD MATE UNTIL 3:1 A.M. A BEAUTIFUL MOONLIGHT NIGHT, SOFT AIR.

LAT. 13° 40'S LONG. 170° 00' W COURSE 245° T DIST. 363 MI. ST. T. 24 H. AV. SP 15.12 K. WIND E 4 SEA E SLIGHT T&T. ND 15 H 35 M. TO BRISBANE 4892 FROM BALBOA 2813 MI.
Friday 27 Feb. 1953

Overcast but bright, squall off starboard bow at 8:10 A.M., bird which may have been a fairy tern flew across rain front, low over water, may have been tropic bird, but did not investigate ship. Lean towards tropic bird.

Lat. 16° 12' S; Long. 126° 00' W; Course 247° T
Dist. 287 mi. St. Time 25 hrs.; Av. Sp. 15. 28 k
Wind E 3; Sea E slight; T.T. 8 & 16 h. 35 m.
To Brisbane 4510 mi. From Balboa 3195 mi.

Temp. 78° Wt. 85° DRY

Read most of afternoon in deck chair, port side. Boat deck forward was cool. A lovely rose sunset, nearly full moon rising in ship's track; clouds above it touched with sunset. Many cumulus on western rim outlined by color. To bed at 10:17 p.m.
Sat. 28 Feb 1953

9:10 A.M. Course 250° T. Booby flying around ship. Black wing tips to be 2° S. Bill Pink fish (dull). In ship's track for a few minutes. We are now within a few hundred miles of the Tuamotu Arch. Tomorrow there should be many birds, although we will not sight the islands to the north. Rain squall at 11:15.

1:15 P.M. Blue-faced Booby flying around ship. Bill yellow; could not see color of feet.

Lat. (D.R.) 18° 22' S; Long. (D.R.) 131° 54' W; 249° T
Dist. 364 mi. Stn. 24 hr. Av. Sp. 15.16 Knots
To Brisbane 4146 mi. From Balboa 3559 mi.

A beautiful sunny, blue afternoon. Read + slept in deck chair. Steward gave me 2 DZ. oranges for orangeade tonight (for "our gang" who like fruit juice without a spike). Full moon up at sunset. Sunset showed promise but the cumulus was too thick. Squall at 8:130.

Will pass small uninhabited island tomorrow "Vanavana" on our port; Austral Island (Tubuai) on Tuesday.

Chief mate treated us to Tasmanian cider.
Slept on flying bridge until 11 A.M. Captain made unexpected tour of bridge after midnight.
Sun. 1 Mar. 1953

An almost glassy smooth day with confused swells rolling the ship. The wind of our motion gives a pleasant breeze.

On deck at 6:30 A.M.

Lat. 20° 14' S, Long. 138° 06' W; Course 252° T
To Brisbane 3776, From Balboa 3929 M.

2. Whales sighted soon after 12:00 noon. One passed to port, blowing (short round spout), little exposure.

2. And on same course as ship; sounded as we overtook. All we could see were rolls on surface. My guess is that neither whale would reach 40'.

2. Tropic Birds in sight about 1:30 (tail color?)
At 4:32 P.M. Passed Vanavana Island to port - 3-4 miles.
Lush vegetation - coconut palms. Greatest elev. 15 ft.

Our first landfall since Albermarle in the Galápagos.
7. White terns (?) fishing about 1 M. to port as we approached island. Vanavana is a S.E. outpost of the Tuamotu group. Occasionally visited by natives.

Undistinguished Sunset but pink streamers rayed out for a few minutes. Moon again beautiful.

Read & slept most of P.M. Steam & ice cream for dinner. Captain invited Geoff & me for cocktails.

Sun is very strong. Even the glare burns my face.
Mon. 2 Mar. 1953


Lat. 23° 04'S  Long. 144° 04'W  Course 252 T
Wind N 2  Sea smooth  T.T. 11 D 17 H 35 M.
To Brisbane 3422  From Balboa 4283 M.
TUES. 3 MARCH, 1953

ON DECK AT 6:15 A.M. TUBUII ISLAND IN SIGHT. BEARING 210° AT 6:15 A.M. LAT. 23° 23′ S. LONG. 149° 26′ W. 5 M.I.
LONG. (E.W.) 3 M.I. WIDE. WELL WOODED. MT. TAITA 1304′ (E. END)
BARRIER REEF, PARTLY SUBMERGED, SURROUND ISLAND. THE AUSTRAL
ISLANDS ARE A SCATTERED GROUP OF 5 ISLANDS - FRINGING CORAL REEFS
335 MILES DUE SOUTH OF TAHITI. 7 PEAKS AT WEST END OF ISLAND.
SOME REMIND ME OF THE GLASSHOUSE MTS. NEAR BRISBANE WITH
THEIR FANTASTIC SHAPES, SOME GOOD DUCK HAWK CLIFFS.

LAT. 23° 35′ S ; 150° 23′ W. COURSE - VARIOUS
DIST. 364 ST T. 24 H. AV. SP. 15.16 K.
WIND VARIABLE. SEA - LOW SWELL 5 T.T. 12.2.17H 35M.
To Brisbane 3988 M.I. From Balboa 4647

2:15 P.M. 6 TROPIC BIRDS (WHIT.?)

11:15 A.M. WH. BELLIED, DARK HEADED & UPPER PARTS PETREL (MED. TO
LARGE). OFF TUBUII : 2 TROPIC BIRDS ; 3 LONG-WINGED & TAIRED BIRDS
SLOW GRACEFUL FLYERS - COULD BE FRIGATE BIRDS - LOW OVER WATER
PART OF TIME - SOME SAILING (NOT TERNs). SEVERAL LARGE FLYING FISH
BROKE OFF BOW (10-12′). BRILLIANT DEEP BLUE, WHITISH WINGS.
2:45 ANOTHER PETREL (AS ABOVE). WH. STRIPE EXTENDS FAR OUT ON UNDER SUR-
FACE OF WINGS.
Wed 4 Mar. 1953

LAT. 23° 57' S; LONG. 157° 02' W. Course 267° T.
Wind SE 4-5. Sea moderate SE. TT 13 D 18H 35M.
To Brisbane 2720. From Balbo 5015.

About 11:15 Chief Mate reported white-tailed tropic
bird passing ship. A following sea, choppy, overcast
most of day. No sunset. Read & studied in
Navigation (chart) room to read sailing directions on
Good enough To & Eastern N.G.

Stalin died.
Thur. 5 Mar. 1953

"Shorty" (Porto Rican crew member whose hobby is fishing) woke us up at 6:15 a.m. He had found a flying fish on deck. Says it may have come aboard about 2:15 a.m. (Dead reckoning position at that time — Lat. 24° 05' S; Long. 160° 45' W) Fish about 8" long, blue. Preserved in formaldehyde 12:1 in plastic bag.

Lat. 24° 17' S; Long. 163° 39' W. Course 267° T.
Dist. 365 M. St. T. 24 H. Av. Sp. 15.21 K.

First day of trip that no birds seen. Rain squalls blowing down on ship most of day.
Friday 6 Mar. 1953
Lat. 24° WH'S; Long. 170° 13' W. Course 266° T.
Wind N.W. 4 (up to 6 in 7:45) Sea N.W. Moderate

Another flying fish #2. On forward well-deck this A.M.
D.R. position at 2: A.M. Lat. 24° 36'S Long. 167° 15' W
A & W with pinkish roe. About 12" long.

Breeze stiffening all day up to 6 P.M. moderating
at 7 P.M. Storm to S. of us near Hermadec Islands.

We are S. of the Tonga Islands. More birds today since
Passing Galapagos Is. At least 1 white Tropic Bird.
2 or 3 other white birds far out - may have been same.
7 Types of petrels: (1) Large dark bird with dull brown
upper parts & somewhat lighter underparts. - Long narrow
wings with perfect control of air - vertical bank as
they catch wind & then swoop into trough; (2) Smaller
black dorsal & white ventral bird (10") - could not see
if entire head black (think not). (3) 3 in 1 group at 12 M.
at least 6 more singles during P.M. (4) Hour 5.

Sun out most of day. Short, colorful rose sunset on
mackerel sky. Chief mate spent day securing ship-
awnings on bridge deck down. There is a hurricane
crossing path of ship S. of New Caledonia. May cross
tail of this in a day or two. We receive weather re-
ports from New Zealand now; also send reports.

Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1946
Sat. 7 March 1953

4:15 A.M. SWELLS FROM S.W. + N.W. WIND S RUNNING AT SLOW SPEED. NO RAIN

8:15 A.M. COURSE 148° T WIND S 4-5 RAINING

11:45 COURSE 150° T

LAT. (DR) 25° 20' S; LONG. (DR) 175° 26' W. COURSE - VARIOUS
DIST. 288 ML. ST. T. 24 H. AVG. SP. 12 KT.

WIND - VAR 7-5 SEA - MODERATE N.W. TO S.E.

T.T. 16 D. 19 H. 35 M. TO BRISBANE 1705 FR BALBOA 0030

Course of storm track E.S.E. Ship has resumed full speed

& we are now running out from under (to S.W.) a few
big swells coming in from S.S.E. Ship on hand-steering.

It is Sunday in Australia + evening services

are coming in strong on radio. Also news

broadcasts. In chief officer's cabin most

of evening. Laughing so much that captain

complained he couldn't sleep.

Tonight we go to sleep on Sat. 1 + wake up

on Monday.

5:16 Petrels during day. Almost impossible
to get good observations. Birds blown down
wind so fast as they bank out of troughs of
waves.

"White birds" reported roosting on mast by

lookout. Not seen. Could be tropic birds
Mon. 9 Mar. 1953

LAT. 26°01'S.  LONG. 177°57'E.  COURSE 248° - 268°
DIST. 366 mi.  ST. T. 25 HRS.  A.1. SP. 14.64 K.
WIND ESE 7-9 ; SEA E S.  ROUGH ; T.T. 17D 2011.35m.
To Brisbane 1339 mi.  From Balboa 6396 mi.

FLYING FISH #2 (POSITION MIDNIGHT - LAT. 26°01'S. LONG. 177°57'E. W)
COULD HAVE COME ABOARD ANYTIME FROM 6:7 P.M. YESTERDAY TO SAME TIME THIS A.M.

SPRAY BLOWING OVER SHIP MOST OF DAY. RAIN OFF AND ON. WAVES LOOK STEEP AS THEY ROLL IN OUR PORT QUARTER, BUT WHEN SEEN BROADSIDE ON THEY FLATTEN OUT. NOT OVER 20 FEET FROM CREST TO TROUGH. SEA MODERATING RAPIDLY IN P.M.
CAPTAIN INVITED MEN TO BRIDGE. 2ND MATE (NAVIGATION OFFICER) SHOWED US AROUND AND EXPLAINED ALL DEVICES & CHARTS. THEN CAPTAIN HAD US DOWN TO HIS CABIN FOR COCKTAILS (I HAD AUSTRALIAN PORT - TERRIBLE!). READ MOST OF EVENING IN MATE'S CABIN. TALKED WITH 3RD ENGINEER UNTIL 1:1 A.M.
WITH 3RD MATE ON BRIDGE UNTIL 2:1 A.M. LOVELY NIGHT SKY - STARS BRIGHT - SOUTHERN CROSS ALMOST OVER HEAD - MOON ON THE WANE. STILL BLOWING STRONG, 6-7 PETRELS DURING DAY.

CROSSED INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE EARLY THIS A.M. LONGITUDE CHANGES FROM WEST OF GREENWICH TO EAST.
TUES 10 MAR 1953

8 A.M. Course 268° Temp. - wet 67°F dry 74°F Wind brisk (Beaufort Scale 6) stratocumulus cloud cover sun out occasionally. Ship riding easily - following sea on the port quarter.

Lat. 26°16'S; Long. 17°53'W; Course 268°
Wind S.E. 7-6; Sea - rough S.E. j.T.T. 183. 20 H. 35 m.
To Brisbane 1000 mi.; From Balboa 6746

We passed an Norwegian Freighter (Eastbound) early this afternoon. Pitching could be plainly seen even tho ship at dist of 7 miles. She will soon be bucking the waves we are running before. The storm finally passed well behind us on an E.S.E. course. Fair all day & at 7 P.M. little motion.

Read in A.M. Slept until dinner this P.M.

3 med. sized petrels in A.M. - Head not solid black
I. " " " 1 P.M. Head (Dorsal & Vent.) Black
White under wing covers plain.

Capt. advises us to book passage home on Wilhelmsen Line (Norwegian) by way of Suez. Takes about 30-32 days to London or Antwerp. Could leave ship at Gibraltar to meet K. then to Balearic Islands. Catch ship at Barcelona or Gibraltar for home.

Reed's "Tables of Distances" between ports & places in all parts of the world.
Wed. 11 Mar. 1953

Lat. 26° 35'S; Long. 165° 00'E; Course 267°
Wind S.E. 4-5; Sea moderate S.E.; T.T. 191. 20 H. 35 M.

To Brisbane 653 mi. From Balboa 7093 mi.

At 3 p.m. (Lat. 26° 36'S; Long. 164° 12'E) observed a cloud shadow whirl of petrels. Area of shadow about 10 acres. No. of birds 25-30. We are N.W. of Norfolk Island and due south of New Caledonia. 2 types of petrel: large, blackish-brown dorsal + ventral, (12"-15"), smaller (10"-12") dark dorsal white ventral; bl. + wh. "mixed" on head (only 2 or 3 of these). Large petrel coasting by ship all day on the following wind. 1 pet. still flying at dusk (7 p.m.)

Temp. Wet 71° Dry 75° Bright day, cool in shade. Ship on even keel. Everyone counting cigarettes & filling out customs declarations.

Visited engine room from 8:15 a.m. Steam turbine single propeller plant. Simple in theory but a complex maze to the uninitiated.

Capt. Erikson giving hypnosis demonstration tonight. Subject fair, not too deeply under. Usual routine of holding arms out, rigid, forget name, told cup too heavy to pick up, could not bring match to tip of cigarette, could not open fist or shut mouth.
THURS. 12 MAR. 1953

FLYING FISH #4 (LARGE)

LAT. 26° 50'S.; LON. 157° 56'E.; COURSE 268° T.
DIST. 380 mi. ST. T 25 hrs. AV. Sp. 15.20 kt.
WIND E 4-3; SEA MODERATE E. TT. 200. 21 hrs. 35m.
TO BRISBANE 254 mi. FROM BALBOA 7481 mi.

BRIGHT DAY - FACE BURNED FROM REFLECTION ONLY.
TEMP. WET 71° DRY 75°

CLOUD SHADOWS ALL DAY. AT NOON A LOOSE FLOCK
OF 15+ LARGE DARK PETRELS WENT PAST BOW OF SHIP
(POSSIBLY GOING FROM 1 CL. SHADOW TO NEXT ?). ODD
INDIVIDUALS IN SIGHT MOST OF P.M. (LAST AT DUSK -
6:15 P.M.). ONLY 1 MED. BL. & WH. PETREL - ALL BLACK
HEAD. AT NOON - 1 BOOBY; YELLOW BILL, "DARK" FEET
& LEGS, HEAD COMPLETELY BROWN - WINGS ALSO, BACK
PIED BROWN & WHITE; NECK WHITE — FLEW BACK &
FORTH ALONG WEATHER SIDE OF SHIP, CLOSE IN.

PACKED TONIGHT : 2 SUITCASES, 1 BRIEFCASE.
TIGHT SQUEEZE. READ "MY SIX CONVICTS" — D.P.
WILSON MOST OF P.M. SHORT NAP. WATCHED
SUNSET FROM BOW AS USUAL — A LOCALIZED ONE
WITH FLAME CLOUDS (LOOKED BEAUTIFUL THRU GLASSES).
Fri. 13 Mar. 1953

ARRIVED AT BRISBANE. UP AT 4 A.M. COULD SEE CAPE MORETON LIGHT + PILOT BOAT. PILOT CAME ON IN WHALE BOAT MANNED BY 6 OAR CREW. SQUALL COMING DOWN & WATER CHOPPY. BACK TO BED UNTIL SIX. BEAUTIFUL SUNRISE + GOOD VIEW OF THE GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS. ABOUT 15 Taegers following ship. Also a few of the large dark petrels in Moreton Bay. Back to bed until 7:30.

BIRDS SEEN COMING UP BRISBANE RIVER: LARGE TERN; DI. + WH. CORMORANT; SMALL BLACK CORMORANT; RED-BILLED GULL; WH.-BREASTED SEA EAGLE. Docked about 10:30. Interviewed by reporter for evening paper. Photographed. Same reporter in 1948. Met by Mr. Brooks (father of George in Cairns) + Mr. Williams (bunting agent). Did not have to open bags. Mr. Brooks took us to Lennon's Hotel (Gen. McArthur's HQs during war). After lunch went to Queensland Museum to visit Mr. Mack. Don Vernon, Jack Woods, Malcolm. Mr. Mack showed me all the latest work on cases + displays (it is very fine). New lights. Had tea. Don + I talked until 6:15.

Then to Hotel for dinner. Also invited Cecily Sandercock (she has left Museum + is to be married April 11 to an old friend – has paw-paw farm. To room + talked, then out to see Mr. & Mrs. Sandercock (met in 1948). Keith Jarrott called up + we had long talk about possibility of national parks in British N.G. Took tram home about 11:30.
SAT. 14 MAR 1953

By flying boat from Brisbane to Cairns (913 miles). Left Lennon's Hotel at 9:30 A.M. Taxi to Airlines depot. Bus east along river to airport (past where S.P. Pioneer. Glen Decker). Mr. Dennis Williams (A.H. Bunting. Agent) & Jon Vernon & his 5 yr. old daughter down to see us off. (We are over the ocean near Bowen (3:30 P.M.) the air is rough). Little girl had her pet, Ringtail Possum with her. Took pictures. (Now flying at 7,000 ft. - 156 knots plus tailwind 15 kt. Over Townsville at 3:30. Will arrive at Cairns 4:30 P.M. Where we spend night.) Take off from River with much splashing at windows (water only 2 ft. below window) at 11:30 A.M. Plane arrived late from Sydney. Left one suitcase with Don (who will take to Q. Museum). Cut N.W. (inland) across the N.E. coastline. Hump. Crossed a mountainous area (Mt. Perry) with thick scrub, cliffs + 1 waterfall. 7 of us are in a separate cabin forward - all for New Guinea.

1 girl who lived in N.G. for 1st 4 yrs. of her life. 3 young men (Swedish Botanist. Australian - Bruce W. Taylor (Has been to McQuaries. &). An Australian Geomorphologist. Have just passed Magnetic Island which I visited in Oct. 1948 on way down coast. Passing Palm Island at 3:45. Put down at Cairns on schedule - 4:30 P.M. George Brooks met us at dock. Went out home with him (2 sons. Edward 9 on Mar. 7; John 15 8). Wife just home from operation. George has built a small office & museum in his back yard. Has fine collection of Beetles & a few snakes. Back to hotel for dinner - delicious breem. Tom & Amy (Tai) Webb & G.B. in for after dinner deer. Caught up on all the local gossip. To bed at 12:15. Mosquitoes. Rained in torrents about every 1/2 hour. Have had over 60 inches since start of year.
Sun. 5 Mar. 1953

Breakfast at 7:30 A.M. Hides Hotel (tea, apple juice, poached eggs & fat bacon). Bus at 8:15 launch to seaplane tied to buoy at mouth of Russell River, smooth take-off at 9:30, circled over Cairns. Passing over inner reefs & small islands - surf wash very evident from air. Over the outer Barrier Reef at 10:45 A.M. Took 2 pictures of foam lines & shallow green water surrounded by blue water. Now angling N.E. over the Coral Sea. Scattered cumulus cover. Sun visible, sky hazy. Lovely colors in sea on approach to Port Moresby - set in series of shallow indentations of coast - low hills (cone shaped) rise from water. Customs no trouble. Room at Papua Hotel - modern open-air cream-colored tropical hotel 300 yards from ocean. Arrived P.M. 1:30. At 2:30 Mr. Ryan - Mgr. of Burns Philp took me & his 3 children up into the mountains to see Rouna Falls, Bomana War Cemetery, & memorial to men who were killed on Kokoda Trail campaign. The falls are the site of a group at the museum. Much open savannah on way up. Rain forest chiefly along streams. Above the falls you can see line after line of mts. running into the interior. The Papuans are a poker-faced lot. Some fine specimens, many with bushy hair (saw one with bird of paradise feather in hair). All wear lava-lavas (long skirts) red cloth favored. Women wear gingham dresses or grass skirts. Took pictures of children. Looked at golf course (9 holes by the sea). Good dinner. Fish & lots of lemonade. G & I went to beach to cool off in the trade winds - soft air.
Mon. 16 Mar. 1953

Port Moresby to Samarai - 300 miles by flying boat. Up early. Breakfast at 7:45. To air office to weigh luggage. Then to launch to ship. Off at 9. Circled Pt. M. (took picture). Then off along coast. Could see airport inland. End of series of scarps. Rover Falls up one of these valleys. Day fair with scattered cloud cover. Becomes wetter (more rain forest as we go east). Mt. Suckling in sight for 1/4 hour. Then Dayman (where we are heading) - extensive upland, then Mt. Simpson. Number of lesser peaks to west. All clothed with forest. On S. slopes, Joan asked Capt. to fly over her father's plantation (cacao, coconuts, rubber). Many large plantations along coast. Pattern of trees as seen from air very distinct. Glimpse of Milne Bay to N. + 4000' cloudy mts. near E. end of island. Then we were over Samarai - a tiny dot of an island set about with many larger islands - all in a blue sea. Len met us on wharf, also Ken Wynn (Transport man); and George Miller (E.H. Bunting). Went up to Robert Bunting's home (near center) - he is in England - for a cold drink. Day very hot. Then up to Miller's home, where I am to stay, for lunch with Dusty and his fiancee. Beautiful breeze swept (on 100' hill) location looking N. thru straits. Whole house open air. Worked on boxes in P.M. Met many people. To club for ginger beer. Dinner at home and evening of good talk. G. & Len drinking at Bunting's. After Ailsa went home Dusty & I collected geckos from ceiling of house. Geoff not interested. Wrote letters to Kay. Dory. Sleep under nets. Very few insects. No screens.
TUES. 17 MAR. 1953

Samarai. Up at 7:45 A.M. Sorted out my personal box + put aside material for food box (e.g. lime juice powder). "Dusty" (George) & I had breakfast at 7:45. Down to P.O. to send off letters 1 & 2 (with diary pages) to Kay. Also stereo 1 to Rochester for mounting; stereo 2 to flushing (not to be mounted) - send to Archbold Office. Flying boat taking mail this a.m. Terr. of Papua has its own stamps. Small boy" (young Papuan house boy) carried my duffel down to Bunting warehouse. Spent morning listing & sorting my equipment. Ken Wynn's boy sharpened my machete, we have all our boys now. Cook boy is said to be very good - trained by Ailas's mother. Also does laundry. 2 of original boys showed positive for TB so could not go. District officer Herley has strict rules. Formerly a patrol officer & went with '36 Expedition. Archbold is a well-known name out here. Tea at 10:30.

Wed. 18 Mar. 1953

Samarai. Took pictures around Dusty’s “Home View” to S.W. of house. “Tom” (cook + head house boy) took my personal trunk down to shed. We all finished our re-organizing in A.M. S.S. Sinkiang (2000 Tons) came in to dock. Carries 12 passengers. Runs from Australia to Samarai + up to Rabaul + other island ports. Looks clean + comfortable. Cleaned + assembled my shotgun + put out shells for trip. After lunch walked along N. shore + East end of Island. Wireless Station, Police Sta., Native Hospital. Met Mr. Sinro and Mr. Matthews (medical assistant). Asked for advice about tropical ulcers. Good book: Diseases Commonly Met with in Melanesia—C. S. James—3rd ed. (7/6). Messrs. Waitcom & Tombs, Ltd. (any Australian branch or Auckland, N.Z.) to A.H. Bunting to buy nails, strip style band aids + sulf! powder. Mr. + Mrs. Gribben (Ailsa’s mother + dad) work there. At 4:30 Dusty + Ailsa took me over to a beautiful little coral beach island—Teika - where we anchored just off the beach + went for a swim. Water about 78°. No waves. Clean water + no sharks. The “Warl” is a comfortable old-fashioned cruiser with sail. Ran back in cool of day. Delicious sherry for dinner (Australian). We went down to store after dinner for a ham (packed in seeds). Dusty is MGR. of Bunting’s; Ailsa, Head Secretary. Saw a few flying foxes. Visited Mrs. Gribben. Then up to house for ginger beer + talked until 12:30 A.M. Dusty was bomber pilot during war. Shot down over Germany. POW for 2 1/2 yrs. Has many friends in Canada + States. He knows Mr. + Mrs. Long of Oyster Bay (Collies) very well. Wants me to look up.
SAMARAI. OUR LAST DAY HERE. OUR EXPEDITION BOXES.

THURS. 19 MAR. 1953

Our last day here. Our expedition boxes.

75t, Joe McLaughlin very well. Yams, a barge.

Told me he has seen a striped tiger cat. One day's walk of open forest.

Met Mike Buzzettin, from MacKay. He

has 75 boys working. One of Mike's friends loading logs for Dr.

Niel Alexander. 8 miles E., of bush track.

Met A. R. Alexander, one of Mike's friends loading logs for Dr.

FEET.

FOR NORTH. MET MICK BUZZETTIN FROM MACAY.

Has sent a message. Has been a barge.

Met A. R. Alexander, one of Mike's friends loading logs for Dr.

Niel Alexander. 8 miles E., of bush track.
Fri. 20 Mar. 1953

Up at 5: A.M. Dawn just breaking at 5:15. Breakfast of tomato juice, out of house before "Dusty" woke up. Small boy carried my briefcase and tripod down to dock. Then on hand but no sign of Len or Geoff. Walked up to Buntins to call them. Finally left wharf at 7 A.M. Blue sky, day air quiet, rather warm. Running N. from Samarai for China Straits Passage. Shores lined with coconut plantations. Sir opened up Milne Bay & set course for East Cape Islands in all directions. Beautiful rain forest on ridges just in from coast. 11 A.M. Ken + I, Geoff + Len (sleeping) sitting in our canvas chairs under a tarpaulin on the forward hatch. Cool breeze. Still off Milne Bay. Thru channel at East Cape + N.W. along coast. A mission station at Cape. Across the sound we see Ferguson + Normandy Islands (both with mts. over 3600'). A few dolphins at 3 P.M. White reef herons + large tern at E. Cape. Also 1/2 dozen smaller terns. Set of current is against us - engine is not powerful - we are making poor time. Rain coming up late in day. Supper of rice with meat + sauce. Samarai baked bread + state brand apricot jam (tea of course). A few dim lights along shore, but no navigation lights. Rain and difficult to run except with compass. 3 or 3 lookout on deck. Finally reached Cape Free + village of Wedau at 11:30 P.M. Tiny wharf. Opened our tents on wharf. Beach lined with coconut palms. Too late to tack.
(Native village-Wedaw) Sat. 21 Mar. 1953
From Jagoara to Menapi. Awake at 6:15. Dark clouds covered hills looming up behind Mission Station which is set up 100' on hillside terraces. Has a regular "cathedral" (Church of England).
Boys slept on shore in shelter. I moved my cat out to deck. Watched at about 240 A.M. English wide cat very comfortable - slept under blanket. Boys on board at 7:45. We are cutting across bay to Cape Vogel. Now passing green knifefridge hills - slopes burned year after year - trees only in gullies. Up the coast the high coastal ranges are bare. Bucking N.W. wind - little chop. Tea and toast at 7:45. Kimi (cook boy) very conscientious. Good breakfast.
Fergusson from daily off to N.E. Very broken overcast at 8:45. Brown booby - entirely brown above, white underwing, coverts, bill pale straw. Rain squall coming down coast. Called at Benedict (gov. station on the so-called Mosquito Islands). Picked up cadet patrol officer. Shewes for the 1/2 hour run east along coast to native village and mission station. Menapi. Our supplies went ashore by dinghy and by outrigger canoe. One load tipped canoe. We lost bag of sugar and some of Sen's newspapers were dampened. Boys carried me ashore so I wouldn't have to remove boots. Called on Father Chisholm at mission. Visitor, Miss Kinr. Also there - they have ice box, had tea and cake. Went fishing at night. 10 mos. specials out near house. Flying squirrels in coconut trees. I shot one and Ken one. Village boys shot 2 flying foxes and brought them to us. Also saw squirrel glide from 1 tree to next. Knocked him down with 410. But he landed in brush & got away. Many flying foxes about.
Sun. 22 Mar. 1953

MENAPI. Nothing but small crabs in line of 10 MUS. Specials. Skinned & made up 4 specimens & 2 pouch young & 2 Petaurus (2 young); 1 Dobsonia & 2 Pteropus
Arranged bed & gear. Boys put up work fly. Geoff & I moved our gear boxes out of Gov. Rest house. Rest house is built on low stilts & frame work of logs. Roof is a palm thatch. Partitions are of split wood. House is only 20 yds. from sea. No waves. Native toilets built out over water. We have an out house. Overcast in A.M. Clear in P.M. Short shower in A.M. I caught thatch drip for drink. Some of our drinking water comes from Mission roof.

One corner partition is bath room - no shower. No luck shooting small bats tonight. Flying foxes going west along shore at 6:30 (deep dusk). We had fresh water fish for breakfast & curry & rice tonight. Wake up bell at Mission rang at 6:1 A.M. Our boys were sorted out today among us. I have David (ken's personal boy) - speaks English - very keen; Lik Lik - skin infection on arms; Tisile - youngest boy - looks interested & likely. Ken brought home 2 bottles of warm ginger beer from store (trading house) for my dinner. We bought native bananas today - good. May get coconuts tomorrow. Boy brought in large (30") green lizard for Geoff. While at dinner a gecko jumped in Len's hot coffee & killed himself. Went into Geoff's can. Kimi - our goat did my laundry today. He is a good goat, too. Specimen numbers start with 1165.
Mon, 23 Mar, 1953

Native brought in 1 Pteropus shot in village last night, gave him 2 shells. Had skinning lesson with 3 boys looking on. Strung up 100 rat traps. All boys + myself out looking for likely trap sites in afternoon. David out with me. Set traps in limestone ridges 1/2 mile east of Menapi. Big boulders + many large trees - dark in woods. Inferior primary forest - L.T.B. Small bats out at dusk high over this forest - may roost in limestone crevices. Out tracking for 3 hrs last night. Many flying foxes about coconuts + bread fruit. Waded thru plume grass (Saccharum - related to sugar cane) at least 10 feet high. Saw small mammal in fern-plastered tree could not shoot. No sign of possums. Stopped at Bill Mason's Store for a beer & short visit. Showed me around stores - staples, knives + ginger beer! (He is going to keep some in the fringe for me). He also showed me cooora storage houses - one for loose + one for bagged. Cooora is dried coconut meat. Best is hot air dried, next is smoked, last is sun-dried. 6000 nuts to make ton. Sells for 65 £s a ton. Smells rather good - heavy + oily. Bag weighs 160-165 pounds. Much building activity in camp today. Boys building tables, very clever with vines for lashing. Mid-rib section of sago palm thatch is made of leaves of sago palms. Sitting under shade at shore today with S.E. breeze + heavy shower came up. Len + Geoff out - we were soaked. Overcast + gentle rain about 6-7.
TUES. 24 MAR. 1953

Today has been rather eventful! Up at 6:15 am. To run line of traps—nothing. Not one animal taken in 100 rat traps. Sent boys out to look for small bats in banana. Spent morning stringing more traps for a new line. David a 2 boys came in with 7 tiny bats — saved the day! In formalin — made 2 up. Do not know genus — separated ears, simple face, color varies from brown to red brown, found them in holes in coconut, breadfruit, fruit trees. A S.E. wind blowing in a.m. Very comfortable while I wrote to Kay (#2), Uncle Will, then thank you to Ailsa & Dusty Miller. There was a chance of a boat today, but didn’t show up. Ken out with Geoff this a.m. David was nearly shot a gona — yellow spots. Out at 4:30 to set trap line (25) up Gallery Forest Creek N. of Rest House. Back by way of football field — fun to see 1/2 naked boys boating a soccer ball around. Stopped at Bill Mason’s Store for a bottle of cold ginger beer. Good! Tried the lemon powder today. With sugar very good. Citrus flavor is welcome in this climate. So at 8:00 am. Paw Paw for breakfast. Tony Situnyes, patrol officer, here for dinner & the night. Len getting info about Mt. Maran. Out hacking in Gallery Forest. Our first cuscus — a brown dorsal stripe. Hung up in Pandanus. David shinned up nearest tree & finally grabbed it by tail. Climbs tree like a tree-climbing kangaroo! Also another flying squirrel in coconut. A boy brought in 2 young D beverage (found in coconut). 2 sticks trade tobacco & sheet of news paper. David also shot an, Dobsonia — hung up under palm leaf.
Wed. 25 Mar. 1953

Menapi. Another active day. David & I skinned most of day. Showed Don ½ of rat, then he did other ½. Then gave him flying squirrel to do. Very apt & interested. Lik-lik & Issilele were out all a.m. but found nothing. In p.m. I turned up a crop of 16 small bats - same species as yesterday - young & ½ grown. All dead except 3 which I will make up tomorrow. Ken & David went out shooting tonight - one Dobsonia. I also went out for a few minutes & shot a Dobsonia. They hang up under coconut fronds. The yellow mantled foxes are usually in among nuts. Had my cuscus skin lying out poisoned and dog almost ran away with it. A beautiful day with variable winds. Thought I was under cover but got a burn on top of head. Hot bath before dinner was a treat (you ladle the water over you). 82°F at 9 p.m. Not a breath of air. Ken sleeping outside in hammock stretched between 2 coconuts. Few mosquitoes. Taking Aralen faithfully. Melon & lemon fan broken out today. My favorite. Lemon powder drink good with banana. Cooking is done on top of oil drum which sticks up thru kitchen floor. No danger of fire - so they say. Bill Mason came in for a visit tonight. "Gavilon" may be in tomorrow to take mail to Samarai. Caught first rat (gallery rain forest) - spiny-haired.
Thurs. 26 Mar. 1953

Menapi, ran traps - nothing. Lik-Lik brought in one spiny rat, all chewed up by ants - may have been caught in early evening. Where is the rat population? Isilele brought in a bandicoot. Cracked across skull. Young boys brought in a small light-colored rat. Also 4 young rats but not the progeny of 11690. Paid boys with 2 large crackers. Some men from the mountains came in to the village in p.m. One had a fighting stick which I bought for anthropology. I was skinning & pinning specimens in front of rest house - continual stream of little boys + on up gathered in front of table. I don't know what they think of the work that goes on here.

2 more lizards brought to Geoff. Ken leaves tomorrow to climb Mt. Manea to search out the land + arrange for carriers. He will be away 2 weeks. Out tracking tonight for a couple of hours. Shot one frog-mouth + David caught one frog. Went n. thru the coconut + sago palm plantations. Ken has just come in out of the rain - he was sleeping in his hammock. David + I strung bat net today near house between two coconut trees. Had warm bath (poured from a cup) after walking in pleasant breeze. Temp. over 80°. Boat came in to Baniara today - runner may bring mail down to Menapi, tomorrow. Heavy rain + thunder + lightning after went to sleep.
Fri. 27 Mar. 1953

Menara, 10:30 p.m. Have just had my hot "shower" after a couple of hours of staking down the Banjara Trail. I spotted a shot of eucusus in a tree tangle. Also a Dodsonia. David shot a Petasurus. Earlier in the evening I noticed bats flying back and forth just outside the veranda. So I started shooting parallel with house (after dark). Did not think I got any, but looked anyway. There was our first bent-winged bat (Miniopterus). Shifted net now between house and my work. Fly. Today we skinned the 2 Bandicoots and a small bat. The Bs were tender-skinned as usual. I slipped a little. David is doing very well. Ken went off on Mr. Spiller's boat - "Ruru." Back in 2 weeks. We walked down beach to see him on board. "Ruru" is a corra pick-up trade boat. Mail came from Banjara by runner. Still no mail from home. Letter from Mr. Milne (Royal Bank Medellín) - also one from Sgt. Velez. 100 shares of "Tobaco" bought at 30 pesos. Balance will be used to buy a few more shares.

Shifted trap lines about today. Still have 125 out. Geoff's boys made a record haul of frogs today. I caught a small red-tailed lizard. Can hear wingbeats of flying foxes in tree next to house. Outrigger with old man and woman put in here this a.m. Bought 2 pineapples and 2 paw paws for 8 sticks of trade tobacco. Pineapple for lunch - delicious.
SAT. 28 MAR. 1953

Menapi. Melomys in trap-line, New for collection. A tiny little boy brought me 2 mice (Mys) vine attached to a hind leg of each. Gave him a cracker. Another village boy brought me 2 young but large rodents (sp.?) and finally native came in with small brown and white bat - also tied to vine - says it comes from wrapped banana stalk (still attached). Skinned all a.m. (David), cleaned skulls. Showed lit-lit how Jisilele was getting practice doing cus-cus feet. Will come handy in the mts. Tonight was one of those nights. We fired at 3 squirrels but did not get one. For the last David went up coconut tree with 2 feet in strap and climbed in 'round fronds + nuts (not an easy job), I shot a yellow-mantled Pteropus. David had light coming in + spotted a tiny blossom bat under coconut frond. Shot + missed. Moon almost full. No small bats shot tonight. Him made bread - excellent. Had visit before dinner from Father Chishola + Miss Kincair, Bishop due tomorrow. Geoff + I walked down to visit Bill Mason for a few minutes. Met his partner's wife, Mrs. Spiller - an native Papuan. Very pleasant. Len strained back + could not go out today - boys brought in a few plants, 3 foot goanna in one of boys traps. Boys still singing - their favorite pastime. Very pleasant tonight.
A quiet Sunday - a hot, heavy day with some light rain and an occasional breeze. Lieleli skinned a Melomys and lik lik a fruit bat. They did fairly well but will never be as good as David, who acted as their instructor. Also had a small bandicoot which I made up. Wrote to Dr. Anthony - details of first week in camp. Mission boat with Bishop was due in Menapi today but failed to arrive. Hope to send mail to Samarai on her. Today all the village girls had their best dyed grass skirts on. While our skinning lesson was in progress they all crowded around for a close look. It was rather disconcerting since they wear nothing above the skirt! Some have good figures and many have faint facial tattoos. Tonight David and I hatched around Rest House - 2 flying foxes - Dobsonia and Pteropus. One hung up in cocoanut tree. One of small village boys climbed tree without any foot strap - went up very fast. Gave him a cracked for his trouble. Len is better today but did not go out. Boys are collecting for him. Caught a gecko here in rest house. Dinner tonight: rice, curried meat, chutney, boiled potatoes, canned peaches with rum and milk sauce, glass of lemonade. Geoff's insect trap is on every night but not much is flying tonight. I'm falling asleep in my chair - it is only 10 P.M. Gentle rain again.
Mon, 30 Mar, 1953

Menapi. Strong breeze today with some light rain. Cold spell. Temp. 78°. David and I went hacking in zig scrub n.e. of village. Combed the place back and forth but no animals. Out for 3 hours. At 10:30 P.M. in front of Mission shot a flying fox. In afternoon Geoff and I + 6 boys visited same rain forest to look over and to collect. We scared a few small bats out of trees but could not catch them. Trail very wet but my boots are wet proof so far. Issilele has sore foot so we gave him the day off. Village boy brought in a beautiful kingfisher — tied by legs at end of stick. Put it in formalin.

The cracker trade keeps up with Geoff on the receiving end most of the time — lizards + butterflies. Brought home 2 bottles of ginger beer from Bill Masion's mission boat arrived late in a.m. with Bishop. Off again at 2:15 P.M. Did not see the "Ruru" is in again but is not going to Samarai. "Govilon" due on Thursday. Mail will go by this boat. Felt good to get to bed tonight. Will write today's diary tomorrow.
TUES. 31 MAR. 1953

Menapi. A beautiful clear day with the S-E. wind blowing off the bay. Skinned the flying fox & a mouse from the rain forest that does not look like Mus--a silver brown. While I was at the skinning table, Father Chisholm--most of the village youngsters came by singing a responsive chant. The ceremony was the planting of the cross on the sands. The young voices were lovely. Combination of incense, swinger, robes, rough wooden cross, & grass skirts. Took several pictures. Miss Kinear brought us a bottle of ice-cold water from Mission Frig. Unpinning many specimens today--it was a good drying day. Set a new trap line of 25 today in the rain forest west of the stem. David, liklik & Isilele put out 100 traps in big rain forest N.E. of village. Len out today, feeling much better. Jatking with David tonight--nothing except flying foxes, found a tree with small berries--tube nosed bat. Tried to switch them & shoot while hovering--but no luck. Tried to switch bats in front of rest house--nothing. Lovely view of village & coast from top of ridge to N. of village. Took pictures of boys. David had beautiful flowers in hair & stuck under arm bands. Len & G. in bed--lead regular life compared to me.
Wed 1 April 1953

Menapi. Ran my new trap line - nothing. However, the 3 boys with a new line in the big scrub came thru with 2 Rattus & 5 Melomys (large). Spent AM making skins. Finished about 3 p.m. Geoff and I walked up Brook looking for small fish in pools. Plenty. G. fired 410 into shallows - no good. An excellent spot for poisoning. Went on up stream to the wild fig. Where we watched them feeding last night. Strong net up & cleared undergrowth. Noticed some flies buzzing and sure enough there was a bat that I shot last night. A real prize! Took him home & made up before supper. Kim & losima brought in a cuscus that they spotted while out walking. Then David came in from baiting traps with another cuscus - alive. Went fishing up stream & ended up at net. One more Bat! Len + G. to mission to say goodbye to Miss Kinear.

Hot shower.
THUR. 2 APRIL 1953

Menapi. The 3 boys skinned the 2 cuscus in the A.M. did a good job but slow. I put the 4 Melomys in Davids rain forest trapline. This P.M. while baiting his traps he found a small & bandicoot in one of tall grass sets. Came home & skinned it out. Before skinning this A.M. I lined up my boys, also Losma + Kim, for a picture. There was a great fuss made about getting the most colorful flowers + leaves. Len had a long walk today. Did not arrive home until 12:30 P.M. Nothing in net this A.M. or in trapline. However, the long-tongued little fruit bat makes up for a lot. This is the first score for the net that I bought from Sandborn at Chicago. Early this evening we had a steady rain. Cleared + we watched moon rise. Shot at small bats in front of house tonight. Hit one very small bat (score 3 for wing shots) winged a larger bat but did not come down. The boy brought limes in + we now have a bottle of juice for limeade. Mission boat left A.M. for Dogura + then goes on to Samarri with our mail. Len + I plan to go east to a small village where there are bat caves. Next Tues. return Friday on same boat (Puru) that will be bringing Ken home from Maneno. Caves are in lime-stone + are supposed to be quite extensive. Hope they produce! Looked in coconuts close to house for "foxes" + squirrels. Foxes few tonight or very quiet. Must get todays skull out of Lens botanical dryer. Since I am last one to bed I also take Geoff's light bug jar down for the night.
Fri. 3 April 1953

Menapil. Good Friday. Very strictly kept by the Mission. Our boys had a holiday today and were unison singing & beating on tin cans in A.M. Father Chisholm came down & asked Len to keep them quiet until 3 P.M. since the day is one of silence & fasting. Made up our bandicoot & bat put specimens out under fly to dry. Many of the girls & boys were crowding around to see them. One, Arthur, offered to show us some good hunting trails – said we should be out between 6-7 P.M. Says there is a big white scuscus here, also a bandicoot with black eye-rings. Completely reorganized my collecting & storage boxes today. Took most of afternoon. No mammals in traps this A.M. Took up my traps & reset 15 in grass in P.M. Nothing (Y. mantle) more in bat net. Tonight I shot 2 flying foxes fighting in coconut tree – one came down & stayed up. David wanted to climb up but I prefer to have him do it tomorrow in daylight. We opened a 5 man combat 1 day ration hit today: cocoa, string beans, meat balls & spag., ham, crackers, beef stew, candy bars, chewing gum, & a few other items. We had Bill Mason – the trader – down for dinner tonight. The trades have been blowing steadily all day & it is still lovely & cool tonight. A very low surf & a waning moon. Saw white cockatoos & hornbills & a beautiful white-headed hawk (redish wings) today.
SAT. 4 April 1953

Menapi. Made up 2 "Foxes" while David + the 2 boys went out hunting. David came back with a new kind of cuscus - small, brown with white underpits, extending only to pouch. 1 pouch young, a small boy, Sebastian, brought in another 9 - same species. David shot his cuscus in a tree - asleep, 1 broad-nosed bat brought in by man - gave him 1 stick of tobacco. Isilele found 2 small mice in forest - may be young of Melamys. We all skinned this P.M., Isilele still (O'Sullivan) pulling legs off mice. Tony Skewes + another patrol officer came in from Baniara, had a drink while I was shooting bats. In good form tonight. Shot 5 Miniopterus on the wing - one has a bright chin marking of fox brown. May only be color phase of uniformly colored one. Took a picture of David climbing coconut for the fox that would not fall down today. He is a good climber. Took my first picture of grass skirts. Several snakes came in from small boys + men today: tree, python, black, + a lovely brown with very distinct scalation. Natives bring them in with a stick split at one end to pin neck. One of our native neighbors brought me a pineapple - gave him some Nescafé. Gave the boy who brought the cuscus a large cracker + a roll of Life Savers (lollies). Took picture of Geoff, tree snake + small fry. A comfortable day with trades. Moon is up + a few foxes are about. Boys are all singing.
SUN. 5 APR. 1953

OUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY (18th). EASTER SUNDAY + SINGING FROM THE MISSION CHURCH COULD BE HEARD WHILE I SAT AT THE DINNERS TABLE. THE HAl CHORUS WAS LOVELY. SPENT A BUSY DAY. HAD A NEW KIND OF RAT IN MY TRAPS THIS A.M. - LARGE WITH SHORT TAIL + HIND FOOT. MADE THE BROWN CUSCUS INTO A SKIN. PUT ALL THE MINIOPTERUS IN FORMALIN EXCEPT THE BROWN-RUFFED SPECIMEN. WE WELCOMED A BOAT IN FROM SAMARAI - "Betty Ann" ABOUT 11:30 P.M. MY FIRST MAIL FROM HOME. LETTER # 4 FROM KAY (SENT MAR. 18) WITH CLIPPINGS. LETTER FROM DON & MISS GROBE WITH ALL THE LATEST MUSEUM NEWS. NOTE FROM DUSTY & AISLE.

WE TOOK TIME OUT + HAD A REAL READING SESSION. TOM GILLIARD'S GEOGRAPHIC ARTICLE ARRIVED SPECTACULAR PICTURES. NATIVE CAME IN WITH 4 DOBSONIA. HAD TO EXPLAIN THAT WE COULD COLLECT EASILY OURSELVES (BUT I TOOK THEM). TO DINNER AT MRS. HOBART SPILLER'S HOME. SHE PUT ON A REAL SPREAD: SOUP, SCRUB TURKEY, NATIVE "ASPARAGUS", YORKSHIRE PUDDING, ONIONS, PEAS, POT., JELLO & ICE CREAM! + ICED CAKE, CORDIAL + GINGER BEER. COULD HARDLY MOVE. SITTING ROOM IS ON 2ND FLOOR - VERY COOL - NO NETTING. MRS. S. IS A PAPUAN WITH STRONG FEELINGS AGAINST THE MISSION. SHE HAS A COPRA PLANTATION + BILL MASON HANDLES BUSINESS WHILE MR. S. IS AWAY. HOME TO WRITE LETTERS TO KAY (ON BOAT TO BERMUDA) + T.D. CARTER. A LOVELY SOFT NIGHT WITH MOON RISING LATE.
Monday Apr. 6, 1953

Menapi. Another busy day - The boys brought in 2 Melomys + we had a banana rat from the day before plus the 4 Dobsonia (fruit bats) which one of the villagers shot for me. Boys working well as a team now. Had skins + skulls out drying - unpinned a few skins - a good drying day. It is blowing S.E. tonight & spitting a bit - no stars out. Had an interested audience off + on during the day. Girls, small boys, old men. They get quite a kick out of watching the various steps, but they can't really understand why I am collecting (nor can some Montclair people)! Explaining a museum is difficult. This is Holy Monday - a holiday here. About 3 o'clock some of the villagers started passing, all dressed in dancing costume - head, arm + leg dresses. Some with tails, had long, hour-glass drums. A big dance on the mission soccer field tonight. All the girls in their best shirts. Talked with Father Chisholm - says dance may go on all night. Our boys busy making ornaments out of palm leaves + flowers. Let them off early this P.M. Noacking tonight. Too much wind for bats.

Geoff & I are going over to watch dancing. Len & I leave for Dabora tomorrow at 11 P.M.

I silice spotted a "flying squirrel" in our bread fruit tree + David shot it. 3 black cockatoos with vivid red patches below eyes were in coconuts in A.M. Very spectacular - 3'4" head crest.
TUES. APR. 7, 1953

FROM MENAPI TO DABORA. SAILED ABOUT 11:15 P.M. ON THE "PURU" FOR A SHORT RUN (1 HR.) DOWN THE PENINSULA TO THE SMALL VILLAGE OF DABORA. WE LEFT GEOFF IN CHARGE OF THE MENAPI CAMP. LEN + I BROUGHT OUR 6 BOYS AND LOSIMA TO COOK. THE PURU IS ON CHARTER TO US TO BRING BACK HEN WYNN FROM THE HEAD OF COLLINGWOOD BAY; SHE IS ALSO TRADING ON THE WAY. WE HAD A LOT OF PASSENGERS ON BOARD FOR VARIOUS POINTS ON THE COAST - HAD ALL BEEN IN TOWN FOR EASTER. OUR GEAR WAS PUT ABOARD + UNSHIPPED WITHOUT ACCIDENT. THEY LOAD THE ROWBOAT UNTIL THERE IS ONLY AN INCH OR TWO OF FREEBOARD. ONE OF THE OUT-RIGGERS TURNED OVER. REST HOUSE HAS TWO ROOMS + A KITCHEN - WE ARE VERY COMFORTABLE. LEN + I WALKED W. ALONG THE COAST TRAIL FOR A MILE OR SO IN P.M. THERE ARE LIMESTONE HEADS ALONG THE COAST. PUT OUT 11 TRAPS + EACH BOY HAS 10. TO HUNT TRAPPING BECAUSE WE WANT TO VISIT CAVES FOR BATS TOMORROW. SHOT A SOUTHERN:relative 1, MINIOPHERUS. BEFORE SUPPER - ALSO A THIRD BUT COULDN'T FIND. SHOT A PETARUS ABOUT 8:30 IN COCONUT. MADE UP 4 SKINS THIS A.M. - THEN PACKED FOR TRIP.

A STABILY S.E. WIND TONIGHT - STARS OUT. LOVELY + COL. GEOFF + I STAYED AT DANCE LAST NIGHT FOR ABOUT AN HOUR. OUR BOYS WERE HAVING THEIR SING IN COMPETITION WITH THE VILLAGE BOYS WHO WERE DOING A REAL DANCE + WERE ORNAMENTED ELABORATELY. DANCING MONOTONUOUS. VISIT FROM OSWIN - VILLAGE COP + TIMOTHY - VILLAGE LINGUIST. ASKED ABOUT CAVES.

BIG RAIN FOREST ABOUT A MILE INLAND. TO BED 9:30.
DAVID FOUND 3RD. BAT - MINIOPTERUS.
GOOD DRINKING WATER RAN OUT - BRUSHED TEETH IN COLD TEA.

WED. APR. 8, 1953

DABORA, SPECTACULAR COLL. DAY! AFTER SKINING A
RATTUS, MELOMYS, PETARUS & MINIOPTERUS - RINGED BY 15
NATIVES - WE THREW OUR CAVING GEAR TOGETHER &
SET OFF TO THE EAST TO VISIT THE TAPITAPIRI CAVES.
TURNED N. EAST OF DABORA VILLAGE. TRAIL LED THRU
2° GRASS LAND & BANANA PLANTATIONS & 2ND GROWTH.
RAIN FOREST. HOT INLAND AWAY FROM BREEZE. UP A
SHARP LIMESTONE SCARP (MAP GIVES 200') & FINALLY
TO A DRY GULLEY WHICH LED INTO A TREMENDOUS
SINK HOLE IN THE LIMESTONE. WE USED ANOTHER SINK
ENTRANCE 100 YDS. AWAY. TIGHT ENTRANCE BUT OPENS
OUT IMMEDIATELY INTO TUNNEL LIKE PASSAGES. TOOK
RIGHT TUNNEL WHICH LED INTO CHAMBER 40-50' IN DIAM.
WE COLLECTED 8 SPECIES IN THIS SPOT: LARGE & SMALL
DOBSONIA & MINIOPTERUS; 3 SIZES OF RHINOLOPHUS; A
SMALL HIPPOSIDEROS - TOTAL OF 74 SPECIMENS! BRINGS
OUR TOTAL TO 191 FOR 19 DAYS. STALACTITE & STALAGMITE
FORMATIONS SCATTERED IN VARIOUS CHAMBERS BUT COARSE.
BAT DROPPINGS ALL OVER FLOOR. DAVID WAS GOOD WITH
SWITCH. I SHOT SOME WITH DUST & #9. SOME VILLAGE
BOYS WITH US HANDED DOWN SOME BIG DOBSONIA.
MANY SPIDERS IN CAVE BUT NO BOTTLE-NOSED SNAKE!
FOLLOWED CENTRAL & LEFT TUNNELS UNTIL DROPS
STOPPED US. SOLUTION TUNNELS WITH WATER DROPPING
TO LOWER LEVELS. TOO DARK AT ENTRANCES FOR
PICTURES. BIG ENTRANCE WITH MANY ST. TITE & ST. MITES -
RAIN FOREST. LEN VISITED CAVE EARLIER IN DAY. BACK
ALONG COAST - TOOK SWIM IN WARM SHALLOW WATER. FIXED
& SORTED OVER BATS. BLUE PIGEON SOUP & STEW FOR DINNER.
THURS. 9 APR. 1953

Tabora. A busy but interrupted day. Measured 3 Dobsona & got the 3 boys started skinning. Did up 5 of the bats from caving trip. There were various natives coming to door selling betel nuts, bananas & native asparagus. And right in the middle of the morning a native rushed in & said he had spotted a white cuscus! Sent David out to shoot it. Came back in a little while with a 12.5 lb. cuscus. Brown feet, white & some cream wash, a few rusty spots. Lend out for long hike east along coast to Savanna forest country. Heard wallabies. Back late for lunch & tired out. Worked on specimens all afternoon. S.E breeze all day (and tonight). Rice & curried meat for supper. Jam, bread, pineapple & limeade, & coffee. Sent David out pocking tonight in same spot they found the cuscus. Back an hour later with a 9 white cuscus & its 1 large young! Also 2 & brown cuscuses 1 with 1 pouch yg, other w. z. White & has brown feet & brown dorsal wash - no spotting. I shot another Miniopterus at dusk. Checked my specimen tags against catalog. 199 is the new total.

Boys took body of 8 cuscuses to Mali (eat) - gave some to villagers. Our rest house is up on 3 foot posts as are all village houses in Tabora. Chickens, pigs, cats & dogs wander around underneath. Almost 11 p.m. Village goes to bed very early. Stars out bright - no moon, until am. Wind coming up.
Fri, 10 Apr, 1953

DAROBA TO MENAPI BY "Ruru". BOAT CAME DAY EARLY. KEN WYNN ON BOARD - RETURNING FROM ASCENT OF MT. MANEBO. BOYS SPENT P.M. SKINNING OUT 3 CUSCUSSES. I TRACED ALL THE ALCOHOLIC BATS, INJECTED 2 BATS + 1 SMALL BANDICOOT WHICH BOYS HAD IN TRAPS. Brought 1 melomys from village. BOAT IN EARLY - ASKED THEM TO WAIT UNTIL 2 P.M. SO LEN + I COULD FINISH OFF SOME OF OUR WORK. THE BIG CUSCUS IS UNSPOTTED BUT HAS A BROWN WASH. BOAT COULD NOT COME BACK TO MORROW SO LEN + I PACKED OUR GEAR + WAITED FOR BOYS TO BRING IN TRAPS... DAVID FOUND A SMALL BROWN CUSCUS ON THE WAY SO HE TIED HIM ON A POLE + WE BROUGHT HIM HOME ON THE BOAT. AFTER DINNER TONIGHT WE HAD A MEETING TO HEAR KEN'S REPORT ON HIS ASCENT OF MANEBO. WE DECIDED ON OUR "SUMMIT CAMP" WHICH WILL BE AT THE LAST WATER. TOP OF MT. IS 2 HRS. WALK FROM CAMP. PLAN TO MAKE THIS OUR FIRST CAMP + STAY FOR ABOUT A MONTH. START FOR TOP ABOUT 1ST WEEK IN MAY. BOYS HAPPY TO SEE KEN + GETTING BACK TO MENAPI. SKINNED OUT BABY CUSCUS JUST BEFORE BOAT LEFT + FINISHED HIM AT MENAPI. ALL SPECIMENS LEFT HERE SEEM DRY + IN GOOD SHAPE. PATRICK + TIMMY - BOYS WHO WENT WITH KEN - ARE QUITE PROUD OF THEMSELVES. KEN MAY HAVE BEEN 1ST WHITE MAN ON SUMMIT. BROUGHT HOME A POS.- SUM. - LONG HAIR, DARK BROWN COLL. OVER 2000 MET. DOG RAN OFF WITH LOWER NAV. REPORTS LOTS OF MAMMAL SIGN. SE: TRAPPES BLOWING STRONG TO-NIGHT. NO JACKING. NO TRAPS. NO BATS FLYING.
Sat. 11 Apr. 1953

Memari. Not trap line to run this A.M. Boys will bait up again this P.M. spent A.M. stunning out formalined rats. From Dabora, David's cuscus, made up skins in P.M. Unpinned dry specimens, Ken & Geoff spent A.M. fixing forearm of a shotgun. Ken is very good with mechanical problems. Geoff's boys went fishing in the tiny stream in back of camp. Came in with 4 eels & 3 kinds of small fish. David brought in a very long-tailed fringed lizard - our first. Boys have been excited all day about party Ken is throwing for them tonight. He has bought some rations & betel nut. Some of the village women brought their black clay cooking pots & were boiling rice. Village men drummers & dancers showed up after Darit started warming up. Boys all decked out in fancy lava-lavas & arm & head flower bands. Our boys were singing at same time as village boys - seems to make no difference to either group. Ferguson chant "sissing" is very monotonous. Each dance tells a specific story.

Father Chisholm rang mission bell at 9:30 P.M. Dancing stopped but eating & joking went on for hours. Ken really knows these people - how to get on with them. Quite different from the "old N.G. hand" treatment. Wind blowing hard today. Few insects & few bats. Ken slept outside in his hammock.
Menapi. 2 rats in lik-lik's trap line total for day.
Reset grass line. David & I worked on specimens in
A.M. Made up last of large Dobsonia from bat cave.
Lik-Lik + Isabelle went west to river - report large
swamp but good possible trapping up stream. Len,
Geoff + Ken left after breakfast to walk to
Banjara (Gov. Station - 2 hrs, walk) - social call.
Sounding out about possible help in the mountain
phase of trip. Ken tells me they clammed up as
far as official aid concerned. However, they are juniors
+ District Officer Healy has promised us any aid
requested. Ken thinks, too, that Tony O'Sullivan is
crook because he made the ascent of Mt. Dayman
first. Bill Mason came over about noon + invited
me down for Sunday dinner at Mrs. Spiller's home
small pancakes + honey, meat rolls, ginger beer
+ tea with cupcakes. Very heavy rain caught me
after dinner and I listened to news + read So.Pac.
Monthly - a most interesting journal with lots
of shipping news - all sorts of interesting island
trips. Not expensive but you need time. An article
about the men we met on plane to Pt. Moresby. From
Land Resources + Regional Survey Section of C.S.I.R.O.
Taylor, Hoogland + Patterson. Hoogland to visit us
here soon. Worked in P.M. - changed formalin on all
bats. Mrs. Spiller sent home some cake for us.
Boys tried to spear small shark - First I've seen.
Drowned 2 big goanas for Geoff. Ants swarming - filled
2 bottles. Party back after dark - soaked + panting for Pum.
Mon. 13 Apr. 1953

Nothing in traps. Rained most of night. Rats squeaking in the thatch early a.m. Runner in from Baniara in p.m. with mail & letters from mother (Mar 24 & 21). 1 from Dory, Carlos Lehmann, & Alice Dickinson in N.Z. Rained in a.m. so checked skulls & worked on Keno's mountain possum. Toni walked down to Baniara to check again on Gov. aid in getting carriers & all that. Also gun permits for boys. Set traps around rest house. David & I went out at 3 p.m. to look in limestone ridge for bat hangouts. Found nothing except rough walking & gecko & a wild giant sweet pea - wonderful fragrance. Shot one bat front of rest house. Spent a couple of hours tracking around the coconut plantation. A few flying foxes about, but did not see any.

Dinner: pea soup, beef rissoles, mashed potatoes, squash, fried cooking banana, compote of fresh fruit, cake with rum & milk sauce. Not startling! "Ruru" may go to Goodenough T. this week. Will drop Geoff, Ren & me at Deborah for another visit to bat caves. Girls wear several grass skirts - when it rains, they hoist them up over shoulders. We are starting to plan our move up Mt. Manena. No carrier load can be over 40 lbs. Top camp 1st for one month. Only essential equipment can go. Boys were drumming again tonight. Last one in bed so it is my job to take off the "Bug Jar" from underneath the Coleman kerosene lamp. All news from home good!
TUES. 14 APR. 1953

Menapi Rain all a.m. 2 specimens in traps. Made them up & puttered about most of day. Ken gave 1 of the boys practice with shotguns. None of them can shoot except David. Len is planning top camp on Menapi & we all spent p.m. segregating material. Porter loads are to be about 25 rounds. So far I have 2 coll. boxes, 1 knock down box (for specimens I hope to get), 2 swag bags with traps in tow, 1 ammo box, my personal clothes & bedding swag. No cot, tables or chairs on top. Plan to spend 1 month on top, 1 month at middle camp, 1 at low altitude & 1 on coast. Then back to Samarai to re-outfit about middle of September. Menapi's not a very good collecting locality & things are getting slow. Most of flying foxes seem to have cleared out. Luckily we arrived when we did. 'Buru' leaves tomorrow about 8:30 a.m. Ken, Geoff + 1 + 5 boys going to Dabora for another visit to Tapitapi Caves. Geoff is intrigued by the possibility of capturing a bottle-nosed snake in the cave. We walk home along coast. Ken, David & I out for bats at dusk but did not shoot any. Not a good bat night. David & I tried for flying squirrels - saw 2 but could not collect. Traps in every corner of house tonight - no luck last night. Len had a nightmare; thought large bat bit his back, grabbed it by snout & yelled for me - woke up & found small beetle biting him. Isilile set new trap line today in rain forest N. of rest house. Stars out for a while but raining again now. 80°F.
Menapi to Dabora. Bill Mason came over early to tell us that "Ruru" would leave at 7 a.m. for Goodenough Is. and would drop Geoff, Ken, myself and our 5 boys at Dabora for a few hours at Tepitapiri Caves. Engine missing but we got to Dabora o.k. Left our lunch at rest house + climbed scarp to caves. No trouble finding them this time. Hill gave Geoff a bad time. Hope he can take Manea. Have never seen anyone perspire like Geoff. Told boys I wanted only tiny bats this time - and how they went after them! We ended up with 174 bats of 5 species (126 alone of the small Miniopterus of which we coll. only 1 on first trip). Geoff's boys coll. spiders + insects. Trail very sloppy after 3 days of rain. Also visited main entrance. Large Dodsonia were hung up outside cave under big stalactites. All flew off into woods in bright sunlight. Very agile on wing. Had swim in ocean + then light lunch (tea, bread, banana). Started off for Menapi along beach trail alone since I wanted to watch birds. Saw fight between small lizard + spider. Coll. small snake in low grass at Banapa (new for coll.). Saw Patrick asked him to try for wallabies. Home at 4 p.m. (8 miles) Hot bath + shave."Ruru" sailed home. Spent night pickling bats in formalin. Brings total to 385. Geoff did not find bottle-nosed snake in cave! (Per Cruttwell's letter)
Thurs. 16 Apr. 1953

Menapi. Threatening dark clouds in a.m. with a few drops of rain. Cleared & S.E. trades began in p.m. Had all my skins out drying. Unpinned almost all. Caught small reddish rat in kitchen last night. 2 rats in trap lines.

David tacked but found nothing. Government boat in today with Asst. District Officer. He came down from Samarai to see that all was well & to defer any aid possible. Much interested in our specimens. Boat returned to Samarai. Another Gov. boat seen going in to Bu-may have forest officer & Dutch botanist on board. Coming to visit us & study Len's botanical specimen technique. F. Off. may accompany us up Mt. Manaro. Ken pitched one of our good tents for their use. Boys & I spent all day skinning & making up bats & rats. Boys were skinning bats (small) for 1st time & they did a good job. Capt. Smith went by in his boat twice today but did not stop in at Menapi. Ken went down to look over Truru's engine & o.k. now. Bill Mason going to Samarai soon. Had the young & social set at my elbows while unpinning specimens. Young boys stop by at every chance. Food continues good with plenty of fresh fruit. Tim baked excellent bread today. David shot 1 bat on wing tonight — only head & 1 wing left (Scolemy). Wrote up specimen notebook tonight. No fishing.
Fri. 17 Apr. 1953

Menapi boys brought in 2 melomys + a ratti. Spent A.M. making up bats + days catch. Another perfect day for drying. Ken fixed one of knock-down boxes + after I dried skins in heat of tent packed them for shipment. 116 study skins 4 skulls exclusive of bats in formalin. Total 393. Dutch botanist, Dr. R. Hoogland, arrived by foot from Banapa. Same chap we met on plane - Brisbane to Port Moresby. He watched Len make up his specimens. Dennis Lamb dropped in to see our work + stayed for lunch. Has boat + trading post over near CapeGRE. Collected small bat with my first shot (Sgoeteinus). Billy + Niko brought in a small cuscus. David + boys went up to rain forest near Banapa. No luck. David + I out tacking in scrub up hill from mission. Saw nothing except small bats over stream bed. Shot yelling Napal fruit bat near camp. Trades blowing hard tonight. Len had a beer party tonight before supper. Ken became very talkative + kept asking "Ru" Hoogland about situation in Indonesia. Back to normal with many Dutch still on islands. Going to sleep in my chair. New moon tonight.
Sat. 18 April 1953

Menapi. Worked on specimens in A.M. Ken & Timmy put in screw caulks on my mountain boots. In P.M. worked on preserved bats — tagging with metal numbers. High wind all day kicking up sea which breaks on coral reefs. "Betty Ann" — Bunting's boat came in at dusk with local mail from Samarai & our supplies for next few months. No bats tonight. David & Lil — Lil went jacking early & brought home 2 small cuscuses. One had tiny pouch young. Could not have been in pouch more than few hours — still unattached. Hung them in shed with door closed. Dog got in & jumped up & dragged one down & away. Could find no trace of body. Dogs are grinning scavengers here in Papua. Small, prick-eared, short-haired. Rumors of wild dogs in mountains. Wrote Dr. Tate reporting on first month's work. Had 400 specimens this A.M. Geoff opened up an army ration box & we had baled beans with hot dogs for dinner — good! He also turned over several fresh water prawns that his boys collected to us for an appetizer. Gave me some ration cans containing candy & jam. I wish I could weigh myself — have certainly gone under 190! Hoogland out botanizing with Len today. 11 p.m. & last in bed as usual. Boys are singing in their rest house. Breeze keeps us comfortable. Very few mosquito pests.
Sun. 19 April 1953

Menapi. A busy day, in spite of only a few specimens. Boys skinned out cuscus + I worked on skeleton — first I have saved. Also kept stomach + contents, Tru kept me company most of A.M. observing — and also the 1/2 dozen village girls, who stopped whenever there is any activity. Spent P.M. packing up my 2 collecting trunks with gear for Top Camp. Also sorted out clothes + put with Roll of Bedding (Swag) — weighed 36 pounds — a carried load. Ten was busy sorting food. Bill Mason goes to Samaral tomorrow + is taking mail. Wrote Hay + enclosed pp. 65-78 of diary. Also sent me out a bottle of passion fruit to keep me company among the rum drinkers. Ten had new soccer ball bladder sent out + boys were having an impromptu game under coconut trees. They love the game + are good with their bare feet. David went out at dusk again + found 2 more cuscus in coconut grove west of town. 4 still alive + in fighting mood. One much older than one found in 4 yesterday. Other a male. Dennis Lamb dropped in to say good-bye as did Bill. No yacking tonight. Wrote letters. Only Ru + I are still up. I enjoy him, but others don’t give him much time. Ten will be out again tomorrow. Ru went for walk towards Banapa in P.M. + wading on reef looking for certain plant this A.M. Also a bird-watcher, wish we were staying longer. Has worked with Tinbergan. McLaren — our nearest neighbor — brought me a watermelon today as a present. Surf on the reef today.
Mon 20 Apr 1958

Menapi, Likuli + Isilele busy all A.M. skinning 2 sunbats, piece. David + I worked well on 4 rodents. Finished putting metal tags on rest of Tapitariri Cave bats. Brought my catalog completely up to date. Ken + Geoff were busy most of day getting food supplies for camps under control - much weighing of swags. Ken had boys clean out kitchen - sorted out tomato + potato piles. Found rooms were starting to take drinking water from brook rather than rain tank at Mission. All of us have had slight digestive upsets. Shot 2 bats tonight: Miniopterus in front of rest house + Scotinops over banana trees in back of house. Boys out taching in coconuts. David brought in 2 flying squirrels. Len + Rudi out past banana this A.M. - a long morning, but collecting not so good. Rudi sailed in A.M. but did not get early start. Took all of our mail. Shot some pictures of boys working. Poor light (50) F 4.5 at 1/25. Wind died completely today - trying to rain tonight. Lack of wind is a relief but as a result it is rather warm + sticky! Had a spat pea (dried) debate at table tonight. Ken cooked some peas with pressure cooker (Len has no use for it!) + cooked some + boiled another batch - still hard. Pr cooked peas (20 min) not much better. Len insisted his had better flavor. G + I wanted no part of either.
TUES 21 APR 1953

Menapi. Another lung day. Found a bandicoot in my grass trap line. Fly-blown so made formalin solution to hold skin & kill eggs. Worked very well. Billy brought in a small 1/4 bandicoot that they caught in grass. David caught another short-tailed grass rat. Made up all skins (2 gliders - 2 bats - 2 bandicoots - 1 rat).

Jack Peters - medical asst. at Baniara came in at mid-day from his Peninsula walkabout - on way home from Dabora. From Brisbane - very pleasant - interested in my work. Seems to know native health problems & cure!


More foxes about tonight than for 2 weeks. Very still tonight. No wind. Few drops of rain in a.m. It was clear today & we could see mainland mountains. Ken + I had a chat tonight after others went to bed about native ways + thinking. Patrick here today. No wallabies but promises to go out again. Ken + David may go out to big scrub N. of here tomorrow P.M. Jack at night, camp out, put traps down & return to Menapi Thurs. A.M. No luck shooting small bats today. First month (31 days) of trapping ended today. Total of specimens = 417 - a lot of work. Don't expect to keep us this average (will not find bat caves each month).
Mother's Birthday - all my love to you. A.

Wed. 22 April 1953

Manape. Nothing in traps except a bandicoot in my grass line. Boys shinned 2 foxes & couscus. Visited my trap line again tonight & had another bandicoot! S.C. blew most of day but some light rain coming off bay tonight. Ken & David were to have gone off for the night to tall rain forest several miles back (N) from coast, but David refused to go & since the native is never right if he disobeys an order out here in N.G. (N matter what his reasons may be) he was paid off. Len refused of course, to hire him (he is Ken's personal boy). If he wants to continue working for us, he must make up with Ken. Thus the white man saves face. He has been working hard & faithfully & with initiative for me. We were blending into a good team. Ken is very fond of him - they have been together 5 yrs. So I hope that matters work out. Possibly his being #1 boy in the team went to his head. He has been reluctant to pitch in on extra camp work on occasion. Ken took Jimmy with him, 30 traps & a shotgun & ack-light. Hope they have luck. Boys singing for all there worth tonight - sound happy. More Army rations tonight - noodles & meat balls with gravy, hash & Lima beans, jam, cocoa, pears, applesauce, pineapple. The meats are never to the British taste; they would rather have corned beef out of cans! They really like it. You simply can't change a person's food tastes. The boys can't live without boiled rice. No washing, early to bed after a hot bath.
THURS, 23 APRIL 1953

Menai. My bandicoot was the only specimen today. The best news is the fact that David is back in the field. He & Ken are on the old friendly terms again. Both of them plus Jimmy went back to the big scrub today hacking. Just home (10 a.m.) with a glider & they tell me a cuscus is hung up in a tree (will get it tomorrow). Also a l. jaw of a large bandicoot (pick-up). Threatened rain in late P.M. but night turned clear with quarter moon. Made up skin & brought out 50 skins on boards to dry. Unpinned a few. Repacked all my gear for top, middle & lower camps. A top camp boxes weigh 70 lbs. each. Started wrapping dried specimens in pages of the Sat. Eve. Post. Nap before dinner. Inspected traps after dark. Isilele came in this P.M. with 11 small bats. He had raided the same small hole in coconut tree where they found bats previously. Can hear small bats flying outside. Maybe I'll have a go at them. Sure breaking far out at reef edge tonight - low tide.
Menapi. The village dancers returned Ken's feast of 7 weeks or so ago. Tonight they gathered in front of our rest house and sang and danced for at least 2 hrs. All dressed up in feathers, flowers and grass plumes. wore tapa cloth (bark) loin strips. Dances tell stories. The end came when Ken made a speech in their language thanking them for their kindness. A spokesman responded.

This has been a friendly people + village. The "Betty Ann" showed up unexpectedly this A.M. sent David down to find out about their sailing time - 2 p.m. Finished work + wrote notes to Tam + Mother. No boxes ready for Samara so we will have to ship by next boat. Ru Hoogland decided to take a chance on a later boat. The series of scotia was very interesting - embryos of all sizes + 7 young born recently. Ken hiked to Abuaro in P.M. + he + Jimmy hacked back. They brought in a young male cus cus of the large white species.

David + Isilele were out beyond Banapa - 1 petarurus. Sigimotu + I went to gully in back of camp. Shot a dobsonia in flight with dust. S. found small snake - took back to Geoff. Packed rodents in pages from Sat. Eve. Post. Have ½ box now. Found a good bat fly way back of Camp at edge of forest. Did not get any - can't see them soon enough. Tennis came along in P.M. + taught me a few more words. Analyzed my records to date (have also added April 25) - 447 specimens - 50 marsupials, 69 rodents, 328 bats (48 of them made up) - 164 skins + skulls - all the rest are in formalin. (25th is end of 5th week). Ave. of 90 per week - but this will go down when I run out of bats!
ANZAC DAY

DAVID SET 12 STEEL & 6 RAT TRAPS - ALL WATER SETS. RIVER W. OF MENAPI

SAT. 25 APRIL 1953

MENAPI, ISLE. Brought in a large bandicoot from his new grass line — this is only our 2nd. TAUGHT TEN how to skin Petaurus — would make a good sitter with practice. He has shot & skinned crocs for a living. He may have a chance to collect at base camp while we are at top & middle camps. Will give him a few supplies.

Wind blew a gale early this A.M. & surf was starting to pound. However, wind died & swung into S.E. — fair all day. Dried specimens in P.M. & wrapped flying fox skins. Will probably have 1 touchdown box + 1 exp. box of specimens to send back to Samaral. Boys were to have played town boys at soccer this P.M. but the local Sat P.M. quiet rule put the game off until tomorrow. So they had an impromptu game among the coconut trees. They really have fun. Of course they play bare-footed. Geoff was playing goalie. Small boys were helping me hold paper while I was wrapping specimens. Gave them a few life-savers + just at this time the young 9 set gathered round + wanted "hollies" too. They all get a tick out of my repeating the animal names in the local language — Gapapaiwa.

Peter O'Sullivan walked in from Banjara today. Stayed for lunch & dinner & will spend night. He + Ken are bending our ears with Papuan stories + experiences. Boys were issued new lav-lavas today — bed + white with monkeys in trees! All lined up with their badges of trade + boxes of snakes + flowers. Ken had a bl + wh. film to take each boy's picture. We are going to send film to "Justy" to develop + then return. They will have a long wait for our color pictures. No fishing. Early to bed. No bats shot.
Sun. 26 Apr. 1953

Menapi. Nothing in David's traps but Lik-Lik had 2 good rats & Isilele had another large bandicoot. David had nothing fishing. Ken skinned out a rat - did a fair job & much better on measuring. Dried specimens again & wrapped a few. 6 more cuscus skins nearly dry. Went in ocean for a swim today with Ru. Very refreshing. Out for bats tonight - shot with 2 aux barrels in gun - fired one, bat circles & you get it with 2nd shot. Fell down in dead leaves. Came back after dinner & searched for 1/2 hr. Will get boys out in a.m. & give it another go. A quiet day, boys had day off after running trap lines. They slept late & played a little soccer late in day. The usual Sunday a.m. & audience while Ken & I were skinning. Timothy from Jadora stopped by today & I asked him to spread the word that we were offering 1 $ per wallaby. Would like one from Cape Vogel area. Ken had a brainstorm about our jack lights today. When 5 batteries were, he puts a 6th battery in series so that proper voltage is restored. Gives longer life, beautiful moonlight night with soft wind. We have a frangipani tree out back & it is just coming into bloom (native to Mexico) - a very lovely odor. Have a blossom over my eat now. Talking over details to night for our next move towards Mt. Manaro.
MON. 27 APR. 1953

Menap: 10 p.m. I wish you could picture me sitting in my comfortable canvas chair under the thatch roof of our house on stilts. Have just come in from fishing. I have had my shower. Very cool in a T-shirt and a gentle sea breeze in the palms. Almost full moon tonight. Everyone is in bed except Ken - out hacking - it is very peaceful. I followed up the creek bed tonight to do some still hunting. Found a cuscus but only wounded it. Fell on steep hillside. Got our boys to help search but he must have scrambled away. Boys searched all morning for that I shot last night - no luck. Ken measured and skinned again this A.M. Geoff came out to skinning fly and we all had a pleasant morning. "R" brought a supply of candy bars with him and he is good enough to share them with me. Good! A native friend of mine from Dabora stopped by this P.M. gave me 5 oranges for a present. I returned by giving him 2 sticks of trade tobacco + a P.T.C. of life savers to his small children. Unpinned more specimens + packed them. Good fresh-baked bread today + plenty of jam. David shot a "flying squirrel" at 1:15 A.M. 2 rats + a Melomys. Ended our catch for the day.
Tues, 28 Apr, 1953

Menapi, Word has come by radiogram that the "Kuru" has been repaired and will be home this Sunday. We could leave for Bila wa next Monday. B is our jump-off point for Menapi. Father Chisholm returned today after a walk about up into the hills. Finally found my bat (or at least the blow flies found it) nothing new--Miniopterus. Another bandicoot in my traps. Dennis caught a rat in his house. Boys brought in 2 melomys. Repacked all ammo boxes for various camps. David cut hacking early p.m. --nothing. He and Isidore looked all morning for the cuscus but could not find. Lik-lik helped skin. Packed a few more boxes this p.m. Will run the drying oven tomorrow to see if I can get skins ready for Samaraal. Skulls dry, will also have to wrap and repack all bats in formalin. Have been trying out orange juice powder (dehydrated) --not very good. Molly Spiller sent up a batch of her wonderful cupcakes today. We had them for a.m. + p.m. tea. Will have 2 empty ammo cases to pack skulls in. David & I were wing-shooting for bats but we were not on the beam tonight. Len had boys bring in several staghorn ferns today for Ailsa. Fern is very large & quite decorative. Fair all day, full moon.
Wed. 29 Apr. 1953

Menapi. A beautiful moon shining over Goode-Nought Bay. The village dancers all dressed up in feathers, grasses, flowers, tapa cloths. At least 20 drums - and a number of new dances. Small boys + girls + many others sitting around. Everyone happy. This was their farewell to us. Ken made a fine speech which was translated by the village policeman. Hard rain after lunch. Rigged up drying shed for my specimens. Did a good job of drying. All skulls dry and ready to pack. David shot a cuscus in scrub back of Mission Valleys, small Rattus, short-tailed Rattus + Melomys. No hacking to night. Losima caught small red Rattus in boys' house. Conflicting news about arrival of our boat. May be here tomorrow or Friday. McLaren brought me a watermelon today + village people gave us pineapples, paw-paws + bananas. After dance, 3 of boys with guitars played a few songs + sang. Rainning again - Ken has just come in - too wet for his hammock. Traps come in today.
THURS. 30 APR. 1953

MENAPI, PAPUA. IT SEEMS SO NATURAL TO WRITE THIS NAME NOW. WE ARE QUITE AT HOME. TODAY ANOTHER RADIO THAT BUNTING’S BOAT “Tessie” WOULD NOT ARRIVE UNTIL MONDAY. THIS AFTER HAVING ALL TRAP Brought in. Put in a long day while everyone else had a half day off – they have all stopped collecting but mammal work goes on. 3 species of Rattus & 1 Melomys this A.M. to skin. Dried skins in oven & wrapped a few. Packed one box of skulls – dried others. Will work on formalin specimens tomorrow. Went tracking up stream in back of rest house. Quiet. A few flying foxes in trees with fruit. Did not go far – still hunted. Finally located a dark brown cuscus with 2 pouch young (each 9 inches long). 12G #6.

No trouble finding this one. Measured & made catalog entries.
Jacked for 1/2 hr. in Coconut Grove - fired once at Glider - no luck.

Fri, 1 May 1943

Menapi. Good weather again after a very heavy shower during the early a.m. Trades blowing & moon is up. Just like a vacation today - no traps to run. Skinned cuscus in front of an audience of village people. Ken watched and I showed Isilele how to skin our feet again. Air dried skins today while I wrapped formalin specimens. This took most of P.M. with Ken helping. We said good-bye today. Off for Banjara where he will wait for boat for Samarai. Len walked down with him. Spending night at Government Station. We are eating the fruit that the villagers gave us. Kim makes a wonderful dish of diced fruit. We had baked beans + meat patties + gravy (Army Rations) tonight. Have oven on tonight. Specimens drying slowly. Tomorrow should see me packed. No further boat news. Ru gave me a copy of Police "Motu". This is the 2nd Language for Papuans, all sections have their local dialect - Menapi's is "Gapidaiwa". Have finally mastered their name for flying fox - tongue twister - "Gwiririta". Have found skull labels showing spots of corrosion. Putting in paper tags as insurance. Ken gives me a running lesson of Aussie Slang. Shot black and white film of Ken's in Geoff's camera. I took individual pictures + groups. Ken wants to send them to Samarai for Dusty to develop. We should have brought a Polaroid camera with us - 1 minute to get dry picture.
Dear - Please spell if New Guiner (NOTRE)

Sat. 2 May '53

Menapi. Slept late this A.M. - 7:1. No traps to run.

Len spent night at Banjara. Tried & preserved specimens most of day. Len brought back 4 gal. can for all my wet specimens. These are first wrapped + tied up in gauze, then put in plastic bag + several of these put in large bag. P.O. at Banjara, Peter O'Sullivan, sent me 2 flying foxes from the island (once called mosquito island). Canoe back + forth to mainland. All bats + marsupial pouch young plus flying fish + 2 birds fitted into can. Ken will solder it up tomorrow. Cuscus I collected Apr. 30 was very fatty so scraped clean + put more alum + aps on. Will have to check all other cuscus skins. 2 small boys showed up at dusk with 2 small bats - gave each 2 crackers. Bats found in village house. Shot 1 bat (same species). Out hunting in coconut grove near rest house tonight. Coll. 1 flying squirrel. Losima was with me + pounced on the glider with a hawk. He is a fine boy + he wants to go tacking for cuscus with me. He is always the first up (5:15) to make kitchen fire. Ken loaded Geoff's camera with Bl. + Wh. film. Took pictures of his friend the native medical asst., his wife + a few of the Papuan girls. I picked out army rations for dinner. We had oyster stew, vegetable soup, baked beans + frankfurters, beef stew, squash + potato + a huge bowl of diced fresh fruit, + bread + jam. Some mail today. #7 from Kay in Bermuda. One written Apr. 5. Also a good news letter from mother (Apr. 13). Losima just came running in with new tree frog + Billy with a mouse!
Sun 3 May 1953

Menapi. Today saw the end of my specimen packing but not without incident. A noise in the drying shed at 3:15 AM woke Ken and he found a dog inside chewing on my last Cuscus skins. The heads & feet had been eaten leaving the body skins. Specimens were dry & covered with alum & arsenic—there is a sick or dead dog in Menapi tonight. Also ate the dry hornbill. Foot skins were hanging near roof & door was tied shut. These Papuan dogs are a hungry & persistent lot. Did not touch my small study skins or the last few collecting days. Made up 1 bat & the glider. 2 bats & 1 Mus into formalin. Skulls all fitted into 2 ammo boxes. Alcoholics into 1 4-gal can & small skins into black box. Large into knockdown box. All set except nailing tight. The "Tessie" came in a day early—late in P.M. We load tomorrow & sail early Tuesday. Mrs. Spiller invited us to dinner to welcome Bill Mason home. Norman Evenett, part owner & skipper of the "Tessie" & a friend, Chapman, were there also. Ginger beer! Jello & ice cream! Home at 9:30. Letter from Ailsa & Dusty to Geoff with a P.S. to me saying they are sending chocolate candy. Scraped all Cuscus skins to remove all oil. We gave our cook & helter a day off. Geoff fried eggs—our first in Menapi. Washed dishes—first time in 3 mos. Moon just up. Fresh breeze tonight. No hatching. Total mammals for this camp—479. Will carry bat & squirrel on to Balawa with me. Ken has fallen in love with native Papuan girl. This country is his life.
Mon. 4 May 1953

Menapi. A day of rest for me - our last in Menapi. Ken up early to nail up my specimen boxes. They went on board the "Tessie" first. Len, Geoff, + Ken checked gear from storehouse to boat. Wrote letters to Kay, Mother, Tony, Uncle Will, Miss Grobe, Mr. Goodwin, Dr. Mayr, Perry Wilson & Gary Harned. We have a big stack of mail going back to Buntins in Samarai. Our interpreter arrived from Baujara, wears a distinctive black open shirt margined w/ red + white; white summerbound; broad leather belt + black shorts. Losima caught another small rat - my specimen for the day. After mail we were invited to tea and an evening of music + dancing - at Mrs. Spillers. She arranged for several of the village boys who play guitar + mandolins to come in to entertain us with New Guinea songs. Two men + two women did the dancing. The men wore grass skirts, too. After a while both songs + dancing became tiresome but the audience was fascinating. The only place for dancing here in Papua is on the beach under the moon. Every window + door had its quota of men, women + children looking on. Some were inside on the stairs leading to 2nd floor - all in grass skirts. Some wore 6 or more shirts - the dress ones dyed in vertical stripes - green, red, purple + often white pandanus strips. Skirts smell very fresh. Father Chisholm was there for a visit. He is well liked by the people here (he is an Anglican - St. Stephens - London). We had delicious cake, tarts, tea + ginger beer for me. Other villagers had started a drum dance which was still going strong when I first woke at 31/2 AM. Quite an unusual evening.
Tues. 5 May 1953

Menapi. Up at 3:45 A.M. Trunks still going down in village. Rolled swags, folded stretchers. Boys out early to carry gear to boat. Moon is high with halo. Villagers straggling by — a guitar or two playing. It is just 6:45 and the ragged blue outline of the central range is outlined against a pink morning sky. Little blue and white flycatcher (martail) is squeaking away. Boys coming down trail with their swags. Jessie’s dory is loading our gear. 6:30 — Our last boys coming off noon-singing. They all stand or sit on the gunwales of the dory. 6:45 Departed. Maneno clear on horizon.

We have to round Cape Vogel today and run up to the head of Collingwood Bay. Goddenough Island looming 9,000 ft. Straight out of the sea, changed course to round Cape at 8:30. We have 2 sails set to help our 6 knot engine along. Now in Ward Hunt Strait. 9 A.M. Tea, sandwiches and cake which Molly sent down this morning. Everyone is sprawled out on the decks catching up on sleep. From noon to one we dodged in and out of reefs and sandbanks about mile or two off shore. Waters poorly charted. One man up the mast as look out. About 30 on board. Maneno and Goropu are looming up ahead. We get to Briawa about 4:15. Change of plan, we are picking our way thru the reef to village of Medino. Arrived at 3:30. Anchored off mouth of small river. Went ashore for a walk. Later after dinner on the boat I went ashore taking with Isilele and Isila. I shot the largest bandicoot I’ve ever seen. We had to trail him for short distance in grass. Spotted the red eyes of a crocodile at entrance of river. Ken shot him from close up with #6 but he dived under dinghy. Slept on board. Very cool and comfortable. Put my cot on the hatch.
Wed. 6 May 1953

Baiawa - at N.W. Base of Cape Vogel Peninsula.

Left Medino at 7:30 A.M. - felt our way out thru Reef again without mishap. Arrived off Baiawa after another session with Reefs. No sea or swell running. Good sun to pick out water colors. Village has an opening out thru mangroves so they can canoe in & out. Also a 100 yd. jetty (home made & narrow - bound together with vines). We held our breaths when boys loaded the outriggers with our heavy gear - tip easily. They had trouble locating my 2 coll. boxes in hold before we left Medino. Found them & I shinned out big bandicoot. Very fat & a lot of skin muscle. Trimmed him & poisoned. Finished making him up in P.M. Before audience of carriers. The rest house is up on a knob of a hill about 100 ft. above village. Reserve gear to be stored here in rest house. Rain came soon after 5:30 P.M. - rained heavily during dinner. Still raining at 9. No lucking for wallaby tonight. Ken has been having carrier trouble all day. They receive tobacco which they trade for betel nut. The nut is available at Biniguni - our inland base. However, they found a supply in Baiawa & are not anxious to carry. We have carriers for 35 loads - 3 villages represented. Hope it clears tomorrow. Ken will leave for Biniguni with first loads. I am becoming very helicopter-minded. Then we wouldn't have to depend on small boats, carriers etc. We could visit many in between places. One of our last nights on cots. Will not carry inland
Thurs. 7 May 1953

BRIAWA. GOOD SLEEP. NO TRAPS TO RUN. LEN + KEN OFF EARLY TO TESSIE TO CHECK OFF CARGO FOR FIRST CARRY TO BINIGUNI. CARRIERS ALL IN LINE AGAIN TODAY. ELIMINATED A FEW MORE ITEMS FROM PERSONAL GEAR TO GO UP MOUNTAIN. CHAIRMAN + EVENNETT CAME IN WITH LEN FOR BREAKFAST + TO SAY GOODBYE. "TESSIE" WILL MAKE MENAPI TONIGHT—WE HOPE WITHOUT MISADVENTURE ON THE CORAL REEFS. WE ALL CHECKED OUR LOADS TO GO THRU TO BINIGUNI WITH US. WILL NEED 26 CARRIERS. JIMMY CAME BACK FROM KWAGIRA WITH NOTE FROM KEN. STAYING AT K TONIGHT—TO BINIGUNI TOMORROW.

Looks as if we will have a couple of days more here in BRIAWA. GEOFF, LEN + I WALKED OUT ON THE HILLY EAST COAST TRAIL IN P.M. (I WAS ALSO OUT THERE BEFORE BREAKFAST). WALLABY TRACKS + DROPPINGS, RUNWAYS ALL THRU GRASSLANDS. HEARD NONE. TRACK GOES THRU SOME RAIN F. LEN HAD GOOD COLLECTING. SHOWER AT 4. SUMMIT OF MANAU NOW CLEAR (5:30), GOING OUT FOR WALLABY SOON + HAVING TONIGHT. AS I WRITE IN THE DOORWAY OF REST HOUSE I CAN LOOK DOWN ON THE TINY VILLAGE — 1/2 DOZ. THATCH HUTS + 4 CORRA DRYING PLATFORMS. ALSO A NATIVE MISSION HUT. PIGS, DOGS + CHILDREN PLAYING + PROWLING AROUND. KIM HAS JUST FINISHED MAKING BREAD. OUT FROM 6:17 P.M. — HEARD 2 WALLABY- DID NOT SEE. COUPLE OF SHOTS AT BATS — NO LUCK. HOME GOOD DINNER OF YEG. SOUP, SQUASH, WHITE POTATOES, ASPIC OR MASH + CUP OF NESTLES COFFEE. DAVID + LIL — LIK WENT OUT TOGETHER + LOSIMA OUT WITH ME 8:10:30. WALLABIES IN GRASS ALL AROUND BUT NEVER SAW EVEN AN EYE SIGNAL BY THUMPING FEET ON GROUND. ALSO JACKETED THRU RAIN FOREST — AGAIN NO EYES. HEARD TUBE-NOSED BAT. FOXES FEEDING IN HIGH TREES. DISAPPOINTING EVENING FOR ALL.
Fri. 8 May 1953


Geoff out collecting. I am the man of leisure this A.M. for a change. Fire for cooking smoldered thru dirt base + charred up kitchen floor. Kim has rebuilt hearth. Put my traps out about mid-afternoon. Back at 4:15 p.m. Just as it started to shower, out at 5:10. But another shower soon drove me home.

Word came in by runner from Einiguni that Ken had arrived with carriers safely—all loads OK. Had trouble persuading men to go on from Kwagira. However, all ended well. Carriers are now supposed to return + start out with us at daybreak Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. Training again—Guess there will be no fishing tonight. I joined Len + Geoff at 7:30 p.m. before dinner tonight—But I took my few drops in a tablespoon: full of sugar. They don't approve of my drinking habits.

Asparagus soup with croutons. Curried beef on rice. Squash + white potatoes, chutney + desert plums. Geoff shot a 4 ft. brown snake with black head—in rain forest this p.m. Quite proud of it. Len got another good collection of grassland plants. Several hornbills flew over. Many small birdlight on top fronds on coconut trees. Saw high tight flocks of Parrots (?) moving inland (S.E.) at dusk. Saw same species come over in A.M. one day. Many moths coming to light trap tonight. Native came to boys' house this A.M. with betel nuts to trade. They are all singing tonight.
Sat. 9 May 1953

Balawa. Maneno beautiful clear early in A.M. Shaved + sent boys out for walkabout with guns—hoping for wallaby, of course. Started up the Kwagira Track at 9 A.M. Coconuts end a few hundred yds S.W. of town. Track goes thru small patch of rain forest, it comes out in savannah grassland. From grassy knolls you can see whole sweep of Maneao + Moi Birri Bay. Signs of wallabies everywhere. Saw 1 (75 yds) on way home.

(Crisis when I reached camp: Len had received radio from Dr. Craver saying that Marie was very ill. He was holding police runner from Balawa for return radio + letters. A hurried letter to Kay with the facts. At a talk later Geoff + I decided to carry on if Len is sent for. He estimates it will take him 3 weeks to get to N.Y.C. In meantime he will continue work. He has his heart set on collecting on Maneao. David had a fine day. He came in this A.M. with small gray cuscus. Then in P.M. he shot our first wallaby (where I walked in A.M.). I skinned cuscus after lunch. Nothing in traps this A.M. I skinned wallaby in front of audience of boys. One was very helpful + quick. Later village men came up + waited for me to finish. They made fire + threw the body, tail and testicles on to roast. It didn't cook long — they chopped it up with a bush knife + either wolfed it or took it home. Early tonight David came in with a second wallaby — this a young male! Everyone very quiet tonight. Drizzling. No latching. Good moth + beetle night.)
Sun. 10 May 1953

Blown. A beautiful day. 72° at 6:30 A.M. Brought in traps. No catch. Boy from village brought me a grass rat—our only rodent here. Lim-lim skinned small wallaby while Tisilele did the feet of first large male. David brought another large reddish one before noon. He is a good persistent hunter. 3 boys skinned Wallaby in p.m. I cleansed skulls. They smoke-dried very well over kitchen fire. Late in p.m. a native from N. slope of Maneau brought me 7 near perfect lower jaws of Wallaby. Bought for 2 large biscuits. Tawwi-Tawwi-Tawwi. Watched Len put up botanical specimens for an hour or so. He is picking today's collection. Will do some botanical work on mountain if Len is called to New York. Maneau was clear at sunset. Took picture 1/8th at F8 but this speed setting sticks 1/16 out. But can use nothing slower.

We expect tomorrow to be our last day here. Will spend time packing. Getting carrier loads ready for an early Tuesday start. Kim squeezed a couple of bottles of orange juice for me today. Very good. David gave me a haircut today with the clippers. Good job. He does a very good job and I feel quite respectable tonight. Gave him an army ration can of jam. Some army crackers for his trouble. It is only 9:15 P.M. Len is in bed. Geoff is ready too. No lack for tonight so I guess I'll turn in too. We all live in our own little worlds. Conversation is always an effort when all three are together. We go for minutes at a time without words. We all have our note books, diaries + letters to work on most of the time, however. Will be glad to see Ken again. Things will liven up.
Mon. 11 May, 1953

Balawa. Another beautiful day. Took pictures of Mits., on Cape Nelson + the Gorupu Complex. Also several in village showing canoes making. Finished drying skulls. Leaving 3 wallabies (17 mandibles), 1 rat, 1 cuscus, 1 Bandicoot, 1 Petarurus, here in naphthalene drum. Also 3 skins: 1 Petarurus, 1 cuscus, 4 1 bat. Taking 5 skins on to Biniguni to dry (3 wall, 1 band, 1 rat). Kwagira police boy came in from his town today. Quite a number of our loads were moved today by canoe across Moi Biri Bay to Kwagira Track, landing on Moi Biri Creek. One of my collecting boxes + a box full of trade tobacco were spilled into the drink. They were being loaded into the canoes which tip very easily. Only real casualty was a bar of candy which became so damp I had to eat it. Dried tobacco over Coleman light. Still drying tow. A few clothes wet too. We were listing + moving stuff all day. Geoff has to leave his typewriter here. He is feeling most trying to check wallaby genus. Seems to be phreatomodon. Do not know if this is supposed to live on north coast. Groove on I^ is right. Skin has white hip stripe + white stripe (wide) under each eye. Canoe boys back (David went with them) + report all cargo safely landed. We will be up at 4 A.M. + hope to leave Balawa by canoe at 6. I hope to get thru to Biniguni if Ken has carriers at Kwagira. Balawa men will go no further. Losima fixed green coconut for me. Milk is refreshing but a little astringent, meat is thin + soft but good flavor. Will be glad to be on the mountain. Bed at 9:30.
Tues. 12 May 1953

Brauns to Kwagira. Alarm went off at 4:30 A.M. Rolled our swags for the mountain. Folded our cots for the last time & stored in rest house. Dawn very lovely - thin slice of moon & Venus over the grassy hills in back of rest house. Mist clear & touched with rose glow. Cool. Breakfast at 5: Carriers up about 6; to take remaining boxes to out-rigger canoes. Safely loaded this time. Left about 6:30 & set out for head of Moi Birri Bay (to west). All mist standing out against horizon. Morning light clear took pictures of other canoes against mangroves + mist. Polled part way. Finally reached Moi Birri Creek at 7:30 & then spent about 3/4 hr. poling along narrow channel lined with mangroves. Saw fair sized python in branches. G. did not collect. After reaching landing "orderly" confusion for a few minutes before our motley collection of carriers from various villages (4 women also - carry in net bags) picked out loads + lashed heavy ones to poles. Then off on the muddy track thru wet lowland rain forest. Geoff & I left landing at 9; and arrived at Kwagira at 10:10 a.m. K. is located on bank of a beautiful fast running mt. fed stream - gray green water. Rest house small but comfortable - at one end of the rectangular village ground well swept + clean; however, the usual pigs + scrappy dogs were about. Boys built new Guinea beds for us. Tied our swag cover thru eyes + put poles thru which in turn were lashed to cross braces - just like stretcher. Went for swim later in day. Cold + deep enough for a few strokes. policeman a fine type. San Areca palm - betel nut growing for first time. Ken met us in village to pay off men. Down from Binigui
Kwagira to Biniguni. Up at 5:30 A.M. Quick breakfast +
carriers picked up loads at 6:15. Cross creek just outside
of town. Geoff & I took boots off and waded, but Len was
light enough to be carried. Left at 6:20. Ken + I arrived at
Biniguni at 9:30 A.M. We forded several swift mountain streams.
Lovely green water. Went in nearly to my hips once. Glad
my wristwatch is water-proof. The trail tunneled thru rain
forest. My impressions were a blurrr of huge buttressed
trees, ferns + palms + unknown bird songs. Track still
muddy from rains of last week. Old man at K i gave me 4
small rats just before I left. Put them in formalin as soon
as I reached B. A + B. We are close in to the western spur
of Maneau. Ridge cut by huge gorge - visible from B. 5 hores
are covered with thick rain forest. Passed thru 2 small
villages late in walk. Much betel nut. There was a big
conference in front of rest house. Soon after we arrived,
Head men + policemen from all neighboring towns. Ken
was trying to get enough carriers to make climb up Maneau.
Long talk about terms + number of men. Ken then paid off
Kwagira men + they left in P.M. Spent P.M. getting gear
segregated for Len + Geoff, who start at 10 tomorrow with 8
carriers. Ken + I follow on Friday with main lot of gear.
We should arrive at top camp Sat. P.M. We had a good feed
of crested pigeon or guara tonight - good soup first + then
fine tasting white meat. No good water only tea + coffee.
I am dying for some good MT water. Fair + all quiet tonight.
Took a walk in P.M. To bath place - spout of water out of hillside. So hot when I returned that I took hot bath.
Tonight is cool. We are sleeping on floor. To bed 9 P.M.
BINUNI. LEN & GEOFF LEFT FOR MT. MANERU AT 7:15 AM.

8 CARRIER LOADS WITH THEM — NO COLLECTING GEAR — ONLY
FOOD, TENTS, FLYS + PERSONAL SWAGS. THE PLAN IS FOR
KENY & MYSELF TO START UP TOMORROW WITH MAIN CARRIER
PARTY AND ARRIVING TO CAMP SAME DAY AS LEN & GEOFF.
VILLAGE BROUGHT IN BIG Q WHITE CUSCUS AT 4:15 P.M.

FAT, WITH TENDER SKIN. WILL HAVE TO TAKE UP MOUNTAIN
WITH ME. ABOUT DUSK THE COUNCILLORS LINED UP AVAILABLE
CARRIERS IN FRONT OF REST HOUSE, KEN TOOK DOWN
THEIR NAMES & VILLAGE. ONLY 37 MEN & 3 WOMEN PLUS
3 COUNCILLORS SHOWED UP READY TO CLimb MANERU. WE
NEED 60-70!. KEN & I PUT ALONG LEN'S COLLECTING GEAR
& ESSENTIAL FOOD FOR THIS PARTIAL CARRY. SOME TOWNS
SENT NO MEN & IT IS A BIG PROBLEM TO KNOW WHERE
TO DIG UP MORE CARRIERS. POLICE RUNNER ARRIVED AT 7:30
P.M. WITH CABLE FOR LEN FROM MARIE'S BROTHER. CONDITION
SERIOUS BUT DOCTORS MAY BE ABLE TO CHECK AGAIN. TO
KEEP LEN ADVISED. KEN & I DECIDED TO SEND UP LEN'S
GEAR — BELIEVE HE WILL STAY TO COLLECT ON MOUNTAIN.
KEN WROTE NOTE TO LEN FOR RUNNER TO CARRY UP
MANERU. SHOULD PICK THEM UP FAIRLY EARLY ON TRACK.

ANOTHER SNAKE — SHORT & THICK, WITH TRANSVERSE
VENTRAL MARKINGS CAME IN THIS AFTERNOON. POLICE
RUNNER BROUGHT LETTER FROM KAY POSTMARKED APR. 26
MONTCLAIR. WRITTEN APR. 26 ON "OCEAN MONARCH" RECEIVED
IN SAMARAI MAY 7. NO COLLECTING. OUR POLICE INTER-
PRETER WILL GO WITH CARRIERS, KEN & I WILL WAIT FOR
MORE CARRIERS. NO POINT IN MY GOING — NO COLLECTING GEAR
+ I WOULD BE EATING FOOD MEANT FOR WORKING PARTY.
Fri. 15 May 1953

Binicuni. Runner with note to Len left at 6:30 a.m.
(We learned later that he caught Len at 8:1 a.m.—fast
Going!). Everything double-loaded on poles except
First Aid Kit, Formalin, Specimen Can, Lamp & Clean Clothes
Carriers do not like double loads on Mountain—only
on flat, so I expect they will soon change all possi-
ble loads. 1 of Geoff's boxes also went up (#38). Ken
+ I have been waiting all day for further word on
Additional Carriers. This P.M. I walked about 1 mile
West to a big, clear, fast running mountain creek—
Wide gravel bed. No villages above. Close to Maneau
Ridge. Took Pictures. One Village Councillor came
with me. Also 2 small boys + Iselele. Tall feather
Grass + Large spikes of yellow flowers on banks. Had
My first good drink of water for days. Brought Billy
Can of Water Home. A quiet hour or two, man picked
over Heads of Boys + Iselele took Bath. Clouds over
Sun. Frank gave us a fresh fish from Creek. Him cooked
It to perfection for dinner. Kept head in formalin
for Museum Collection. Bought (for 2 crackers) a
Bright yellow snake with lavender spots (maybe
Young Pacific Doa) from a Village Boy. Cleaned skull
of Cuscus + 6 Days cleaned feet. Ken + I spent
Night trying to decide on plans for A.M. Wrote Kay,
Sending 2 rolls of film to flushing. Fair all day.
Biniguni. Another day of waiting. I wondered if

carriers would arrive. Runner returned from mountain

with mail & messages. Len & Geoff reached 5,000 yest-

erday. P.M. + camped - both well. Len has decided not to

return to U.S. yet yet. Thurs. night Lila camped at

the "tea house" (a few poles + some roof leaves) - 700 M. Good

water there. None again until middle camp. Their carriers

carried bulky loads to singles. Main carrier party had

not caught up to them. We sent off the police runner

to Baniara about noon. 3 rolls of my film + letter to

Ray. Also Len's radiogram + some personal letters. Ken

wrote to Buntins for more rice + trade tobacco. Also

to the Patrol Officer. Peter O'Sullivan, at Baniara ad-

vising him of the poor carrier situation here at Bini-

guni. A patrol visit may help us out. Ken also (later)

sent Nick & Lila down to Kwagirah with a further

message for O'Sullivan (runner spending night at Kwagira).

In a.m. Ken had sent David & Kim to Wapono to get

information on carriers. No helpful news. Brought

rumors back that man had died there due to sorcery

on part of someone here in Biniguni. This was the news

that Ken thought necessary to send to Peter. It may

mix carrier situation up still more. About 4: P.M., we

decided to plan to use our remaining boxes + ourselves to

pack some of my light collecting gear + food up the Mt.

so I would not lose more time. Almost finished and

5 carriers walked in from village of Maneahu. This is good

news for me - will give me enough collecting gear to get

a good start at top camp. A more cheerful camp tonight.
Sugar, cocoa, coffee, jam, bread + crackers. Made lot of smoke so men will know when & where we are. Boys now collecting wood for night & making leaf beds - 5:30 P.M. This is a possible 2 week collecting site 2 months from now. Will eat & go to bed early. Carriers now chewing betel nut + smoking + talking.

SUN. 17 MAY 1953

Biniguni, to first camp site on Mt. Maneau - 1/4 mile beyond "tea house" - a rough forest shelter. This is where Len & Geoff camped last Thursday night. The poles for their shelter fly are standing in a little clearing just off the trail (not very flat). I do not have fly & I hope the dry weather of the last few days holds tonight & tomorrow. Today has been perfect. My ground cloth is on a thin bed of tree fern fronds (1 a tree fern arches over my bed). My sleeping bag will feel good tonight. My net is rigged over all & tucked in under the cloth. Fine if it does not rain. Finished weighing gear this A.M., I have: coll. box #40, brown swag of traps, tow & bait, swag of sawdust, alum, naphthalene, flashlight, note books, 4 or 5 clothes, my bedding & clothes swag, kerosene, more rice with us as well as our own rations for 5 meals: 110 men (7 carriers, Biniguni, police man, myself & David). Shaved & then left B. at 10:50 A.M, an easy level walk skirting the Maneau ridge (thru rain forest) brought us to a mountain creek - 11:40 A.M. 100 yds down creek a small torrent falls down over rock ledges. We spelled until 12:30 P.M. Crisis - no matches, had 3 in coll. trunk but it was all lashed up so did not tell them. All tried to make sparks - some with vine running under split stick with tinder underneath - others by rubbing one stick on another. No one succeeded. Up torrent bed at 12:30 but soon branched away - steep going (like steep part of Moosilauke). Spell 11:12:30. Between 2 creeks at 1:30. Over dry creek bed, keeping to small ridges. Heavy rain forest. Occasional narrow views out to Collingwood Bay. Spell 2: To 2:15. Creek roaring off to left (E). Tea house at 2:30. Camp at 2:35. Total walking time: 2 hours 15 min. All carriers OK. David got water. I made lemonade. Found tree near trail on way up. 10 lbs. rice + 3 tins of bully beef to boys. I have ten
Mon. 18 May 1953

First camp site on Maneu to Top Camp. Up at 6:15.a.m. did my swag up + had quick breakfast of bread, ham, tea, sugar + a few dried oat meal flakes in tea. Carriers lingered over breakfast + we did not start out until 7:15. A perfect night + good sleep under stars + 1st July moon.

Passed 3rd "tea house" at 7:50. 8:15 spell. First vines with sections - a climber + water in some sections. Now on first ridge - see to N. 15. Spell 8:30 - 8:50. 9:15 - Passed Don's carrier camp. Spell 9:45 filled billy can with water. Start 10. Arrived at middle camp at 10:30 A.M. Met carrier party on way down to Binning. Had left top camp at 8 a.m. Don staying up top. Carriers had long spell + ate lunch as did I. Middle camp in transition between oak + beech. This was supposed to be the 2nd night sleeping spot, but carriers + I all feeling strong so we decided to go on to top camp. Left at 11:30.


Fine water. Lovely camp site. All in good shape. Walking time - 5 hours.
TUES 19 MAY 1953

Top Camp, 30°F about 6 A.M. Frost on ground in patches. Spent rather a chill night in spite of ground cloth on wooden pata-pata (raised 2 feet off ground) blanket under sleeping bag + winter panamas + wool socks + wool helmet. Just not used to the cold after our 80° Menapi weather. Walked up the hill behind camp to get warm + to see the view. Goropu loomed high, clear + rugged to W. Great basin S. of Maneau (filled with virgin rain forest). The Maneau Range swings in a giant horseshoe (open end to West) about this basin. Highest point seems to be on other (S) arm of horseshoe. David had 4 rats. I had 4 rats + 1 melomys - both new, 10% of our trap set. Geoff + boys busy all A.M. + part of P.M. Building frame for my tent (which Ken will bring up from middle camp), cook house, outhouse + wash stand. David + I went thru the specimens in good style. Len + 2 of his boys botanized to Maneau summit this A.M. (2700 M) took bearings. Not too good for pictures. No natural grassland, has all come in after mossy forest burned off by generations of wandering natives. Easy 2 hr. climb from camp. David + I went out nacking at 7 P.M. I shot 1 ring tail possum in mossy forest in gulley next to camp. Very dark, small feet, white belly, lovely clear night. Nacking warmed me up, not so cold tonight. To bed at 8:30. Moon overhead. Kim came in with Lik-Lik + Tsilele + 10 carriers this A.M. Ken may be up tomorrow. Boys have barked in their fly to keep warm.
Wed. 29 May 1953

Top Camp. I am writing three notes in my new ted! There are Xed sticks at head + foot. Two poles are lashed to these on + over ground cloth stretching between them like a stretcher.

Sleeping in my winter panamas, sweater & socks + in the sleeping bag. + more roasted L. i. melomys in traps.

Lilac bill silele did very good had on the possum.

Len arrived in camp with 10 carriers at about 11.30 am. Came from middle camp. Brought my ether trap swag in Cool. Box 39. Fell set now for next 5-6 weeks up here (also ammo box). Put my end of the collecting fly in order. 2nd tent came up. Geoff had it rigged in P.M. Also built small shed for our man. Mini thermometer. Ken is freezing. Has had 11 years of warm living. Took in all my traps. Put 18 along brook. In mossy forest. 27 in grass. Clouds blew in at dinner time. Clear by 7.45. Lilac bill + I went hacketing until nine. Nothing. Ken dressed in a jungle suit, my paraffin hood & with a back light tried to get baupeel. Of his 22 went out looking for wallaby. Isiulele wrapped in a blanket went with him. No luck. Len is leaving on May 29th. Pigeon stew (Ken shot it this a.m.), rice, peas, beef rissoles & ham for dinner. Camp is really on a permanent basis now.
Thurs, 21 May 1953

Top Camp. Another beautiful day and night. Have just come in from hucking S. along edge of the mossy forest. Göropu Range clearly visible in moonlight. Heard wallaby 40–50 feet away in scrub. This a.m. we had 11 rats of 2 species in traps (N.D. 4; LL. 2; J. 3; D. 2) – 1 new species trapped in edge of scrub & cut out in grass. David, Niko & Ken cut trail to river 1500' below us to the S. Finally stopped by 300' drop to the river. Brought back some interesting plant specimens. Lik-Lik & Tsilele worked with me most of day on our specimens. A quiet day in camp. Boys were putting bark around the cook shed. Len worked close to camp collecting. Geoff had his light in the edge of the scrub – nothing. He is disgusted with collecting up here. The important insects at this camp are all small. G. has had no experience with these – but he has four more weeks to learn. We are scheduled to leave here for Middle Camp on June 22. 3 weeks at Middle Camp. 2 weeks at Bottom & 6 weeks in and near Binaguni – then a week or so collecting on way back to Sambaru, arriving there about 3rd week of September. Ken has just gone to bed with 4 shirts, 4 pairs of socks. My Parka Hood, 3 blankets & his jungle suit. 10:1 P.M. Hope I sleep warm too.
Top Camp. We all had a good warm sleep last night. Did not zip down the sleeping bag until 6:30 A.M. Clouds & sun have alternated in camp today. Tripped 3 Rattus & 1 Melomys, David - 2 Rattus, Lik-Lik - 1 Rattus. All the boys were put to work on their shelter this a.m. If they won't help themselves, we have to see they do something to keep warm. All barked & brushed in, with doors & smoke holes over dark doors. Grass, ferns & bark under their blankets. Worked until about 3 p.m. Then Ken, Geoff & I, the boys went over the hill into the mossy forest to cut a hacking trail - this ends at camp. I set 4 steel traps in a wallaby pad - also put mat bodies between traps. Lovely cloud & sun effect over river going to S. The hoop pines make a fine sight against the clouds. 6 p.m. and we are all sitting down to a rum. I still have a few drops in a spoonful of sugar. Ken built a path patio in my tent today for my mammal drying boards.

An exciting hacking night. David & I out together. Ken & Lik-Lik. I shot a ring-tailed possum - new for the trip - a golden greenish tinge to gray black pelage. Ken shot a small ring-tail (#H-12GR1 in the tail end) brown, buff & white face markings - also new. The animal I thought was a ring-tail (coll. May 19) must be acusus. A month should give us a fair idea of what is here. But you never really work a place out. Saw small bat in forest tonight. Thought we heard a flying fox on the wing but not sure. Warm in forest. 10:30 p.m.
Sat, 23 May 1953

Top Camp. David & the 2 boys skinned the 2 Possums and our catch of 6 rats. Kept up our average of 2 per day for this camp. (40 to date). I made the small Ringtail up as a study skin. He shows a very interesting molt condition. Then started up Manjung this A.M. to spot a possible path down to the Big River in the Gorge to the South of us. Back early. Feelingsick with sinus & cold. We plan to go out together tomorrow to try another route. Most of the boys were out chopping, stacking trails in P.M. Delayed my outdoor bath too late and a cool wind made my wash a little chilly - but the hot water felt good. Kim bakes wonderful whole wheat rolls. With butter & golden syrup you can make a meal out of them. Out stacking with Lil-Lila tonight. I spotted a cub & gave him the shot. Either missed or it's still hanging in tree. Also fired at another pair of eyes in same tree (inside leaf tangle) - nothing fell. We will go back tomorrow & climb tree. A beautiful Bird of Paradise visited tree at edge of Camp. All black with 2 two foot tail feathers. Fed in full view for several minutes. Saw another bat in forest tonight. Must roost in tree holes.

10:15 P.M. A damp cold tonight. Our luck is still holding with the weather. Fair with only a few thin clouds today.
Sun. 24 May 1953

Top Camp. Ken + J. David, Jimmy + Nito decided to make another try to reach the River Gorge south of camp. Ken was stopped last time by a drop of 300 feet into the gorge. Measured my specimens + turned them over to Lih Lih + Isilele to skin + prepare for filling when it return to camp. Left camp at 9:15 + cut down slope behind Maneau Ridge, up + down some steep gullies in scrub - water falling south. Out into small grass patch, thru another narrow scrub belt + then angled down a big open fern + grass field. At far corner we cut thru low scrub + followed down several dry stream beds until we reached the brink of last drop to Kwariu River. Down by the seat of our pants to a very lovely mountain brook in a narrow bed. ELEV. 1840 M. at 11:30 A.M. Cold clear swirling water. Several Beautiful pools at spot we cut river. Moss covered rock ledges. The others "boiled the billy" while I collected plants for Len. Found one wild begonia. Dozens of Fern species! Also Orchids. Quite possible we were first white men at this spot. Collected some pebbles. Upstream compass bearing 145°. ELEV. at 1: P.M. 1850 M. After stiff climb up we came out on field which boys had fired on way down. No damage, much easier walking. Beautiful cloud effects to west - Goropu. Home at 3: Frank had arrived from Biniguni with cable for Len. Marie better so will stay on here at Top Camp. Had hot bath. Just about to sit down to write letters when Bobby spotted 2 scrub wallabies on other side of Forest. David shot them - our first of this species for trip. Very small + dark (4#8 oz. + 4#6 oz.!). Wrote letters (mother, Kay, Mr. Little). 2 letters from mother + 1 from Dr. Tate.
Temp. at -1°C last night (coldest yet). Heavy frost, brilliant moon tonight.

Mon. 25 May 1953

Top camp, Ken packed his knapsack after break fast + after. I took a couple of pictures. Started down the mountain to Biniguni with Niko (one of our boys) + Frank, the native medical assistant. Should be down well before dark. He is on his way out to Biawa on the coast to pick up stores + start supplies moving in for our middle camp. This should be an easier job than getting us all settled here at top camp. I will miss him. No company in my tent tonight except rats, possums, eusco, + wallabies.

Today was an exciting one for the mammal department. First Lim Lim brought in a new genus, *Pogonomys* — a long-tailed little tree rat which he caught out in the grass. Other rats of 2 species we have. Boys skinned out wallabies — skulls almost perfect. I finished making up today's + yesterday's skins. I had sent David out in P.M. to look for animals in holes in trees. He found one + it ran up the tree. David went down, got his gun + collected our first giant rat, *Uromys anah*, which has a wide distribution in the mountains of N.G. Then Lim Lim + Isilele came in with another golden-green possum. Still alive — very gentle + quiet. Gave the boys a spell tonight + invited Losima to go out with me. I spotted eyes not a 100 yds. from camp. In Leroy high tree (fired 3 6s + 1 410) — returned to camp for some 44s. Fired 3 more rounds before small possum fell out of tree. An immature ring-tail with a striking face pattern — young. — same species as the one Ken brought in a few nights ago. Losima is a good tracking companion. Delicious dinner tonight: soup, hash, hamburgers + baked beans, new bread, peas, canned pineapple + a candy bar!
Top Camp. Have just come in from 2 hrs. of hacking (7:15 - 9:15 P.M.) with little Losipe from Goodenough Island. Had all our luck in the first 5 minutes: I shot a golden-green ring-tailed possum just at the edge of camp in the scrub (high mossy forest). Found nothing else except 1 Rattus in 1 of my traps. Losipe is a good hacking companion (repeatedly myself). Davie skinned the giant rat today (tail is almost 16" long! the body 12") He found 3 embryos. Only 2 Rattus in traps today. Unpinned 37 specimens. They dry very quickly in my tent when the sun beats down. Boys finished skinning early, took cold bath in stream - then ran for the sun. Saw a small lizard at the bottom of our hole in the ground. John told Geoff - he managed to net it (without accident) - our first at this camp. His boys have found tiny frogs. Geoff is bush beating into a sheet. His insect collections have since shown a sharp rise. Took in my Brock Rat traps & have reset along forest hacking trail (17). Clouds blew in about dusk & I thought our good weather was going to turn to rain. Cleared after dinner. Long-tailed Bird-of-P. was calling in woods today for several hours. Almost twice a day we have hard dried peas. They still have found no way to soften them up. I shall never go on another trip without a good selection of dehydrated food. New bread today. Good night, darling.
Wed. 27 May 1953

Top Camp. An exciting day for specimens. First Len went botanizing east above the Kwariu River. Timmy was with him and found a hole high (30'-40'?) up in tree with a giant rat in it (Uromys). He dragged it out by the tail.

David set a new trap line over in a patch of isolated scrub on the track and on his way home shot (H10 #9) our 3rd scrub wallaby. & weighing a little over 3 pounds. I went for a walk soon after 4 P.M. & heard chopping. Several hundred feet down the river slope saw Lt. Lt. coming with axe from camp. Billy had found a cuscus in leaning, hollow tree. They opened up another hole above entrance hole & Lt. Lt. pulled a big male long-haired cuscus out by the tail. Same species I shot the 2nd night in camp. Worked on specimens most of day. Trapped our 4th Melomys. Also & rattus. Made the ring-tail up as a study skin. Took picture of him in Isileles hands - close up. As I climbed the hill back of camp this P.M. Goropy was a blue outline - no detail. Dense blanket of cloud pouring over the divide between Maneau Range & Goropy from the south coast. Collingwood Bay & the Cape Vogel Peninsula also under blanket. The sun had set by the time we reached our camp. Saddle & Goropy was outlined by orange sky. The nearly full moon was rising over Maneau and the night chill was settling down as the boy and I (carrying cuscus) filed into camp. Took a spell tonight from hacking. Worked on my field notebook. I was right in the middle of this page when the kerosene in my lamp gave out.
THURS. 28 MAY 1953

Top Camp (Elev. revised to 2730 m. from 2300 m).

This was our high day for shot: 1 trapped specimens: 11 Rattus (Gray belly); 2 Rattus (white belly); 1 Pogonomys (with the last 14 mm. of his tail dorsally prehensile!); 3 Melomys; 1 Uromys; 1 Wallaby; 1 Phalanger. Total 20. David's line in the scrub on the track is full of rodents. Still don't know where Lim Lim trapped his Pogonomys (still alive when he brought it in - tail 37...). I must go with him tomorrow so I can get an idea of habitat. I collected parasites from the wallaby. Uromys + phalanger. Boys skinned fast & well. Last one ready for filling at 11 P.M. Made up skins all afternoon. Pinned them out after dinner tonight. All complete except filling Uromys. Worked on notebook. A long day. Another cable for Len came by Police Runner from Baniara (3 days to camp - very fast time). Marie much better. Looks as if Len will be able to complete expedition with us. He was to have left tomorrow. Runner returns tomorrow with cable. Reply + mail. Unexpected chance as usual. Wrote Kay short note (+ Diary pp. 115-118). Kim (our 1st cook) sick today. Losima took over & we had the best baked bread yet. Cheese & strawberry jam with it. We have an Australian ham with us & we have a slice every day or two. Excellent.

Jimmy picked up a new kind of frog while chopping wood in camp. Full moon tonight. Clouds of early evening have cleared.
Fri. 29 May 1953

Top camp. Another day of hard work. 1 wallaby. Another Possums (Lim. isik has taken all 2!). A white-bellied Rattus. 1 large Melomys. 2 grey-bellied Rattus. I took the prize today with a new mammal for the camp—Antechinus, a small dark marsupial mouse with a black mid-dorsal line. Caught in a museum trap line at edge of mossy forest & grassland. This trap line has been in same position for 10 days—still taking an occasional Rattus! This line a good example of the rule to trap out the common species in a given locality then let your line pick up the rarer mammals. (It doesn't always work!). 103 specimens for this camp 4.3 weeks to go. Went out hacking tonight.

Saw one pair of eyes in thick vine tangle off trail. Missed. Then almost at edge of camp, spotted eyes in same tree where I collecte Golden possum. This one very active. Fired 2 shots at where it had been. 3rd brought it down. Lim. isik was a help in tracing its movements thru the branches. Our 3rd Brown-faced Ring-tail tracked the trail down the gorge which Jimmy opened up. This gorge is very steep. Little noise in this forest. Much prefer the scrub above camp. Will have more trails cut here. David & Lim. isik hunted without success this P.M. All the boys skinned well today, finished before noon. Len is still finding new orchids & ferns every day. Also a yellow-flowered Rhododendron (which I could recognize and a simple-flowered red R. with small leaves. Would not have known it as a R. Geoff's boys found 7 new frogs today. This collection will be most interesting to our Herb. Dept. Studied Tate's Rodents & compared some of my measurements with the Shay-Meyer report. Clouds blowing in most of the day. Moon visible tonight but clouds are driving over our pocket from the East. A few drops of rain today. Some wind tonight. Tent is secure.
Sat., 30 May 1953

Top camp. Our first day of real rain. Clouds low and a real downpour now and then. My work kept me out of the wet in the A.M. and this afternoon I have spent in the tent reading and writing. 7 specimens: my ringtail, 1 Melomys, 1 white-bellied Rattus & 4 gray B. Rattus (all in David's trapline). The rest of us drew a blank. Had Leslie put his traps along edge of forest. All finished except filling possum before lunch. Len went off for the day to botanize the Kwarib River. Back about 4 P.M. - soaked. Geoff & I had a fine lunch: Ham & sausage, onions in gravy, peas, hot rolls, cheese, jam, tea, David & Lik-Lik cut new trail in forest this P.M. May be too wet for arching tonight. It has warmed a little but a cold damp has settled in camp. Birds very active in flowering trees today.

Memorial day at home. I wonder if the M.G.C. pool is to be opened today?

9 P.M. and it is pouring! During dinner the moths & other insects came down on us & Geoff put up 2 light traps - one in each tent. His best harvest at this camp. This material should be new & important. Wrote Brownie a letter tonight with news to pass on to the Upper Club & Montclair B.C.

Temperature very moderate tonight. My tent is well-trenched so I am still dry. The expensive Egyptian tent cloth seems to be waterproof. It is good to have a tent of my own so I can spread out. Think I'll go to bed & read now.

Hope you had a lovely day, darling.

Good night.

Rice pudding for dinner tonight.
SUN. 31 MAY 1953

Top Camp. A wet misty day... Not cold. Tonight the stars are out and the moon is rising but a thin mist is hanging in the camp hollow and in the mossy forest. Went jacking over the new trail David cut. Trees dripping. My luck still held - brought in 1 of the brown-faced ringtail possums and 1 small pouch young. My 4th of this species. Also climbed down into the ravine behind camp. Nothing. Lamps were literally for insects. Geoff discovered bats flying over the tents. One lucky close shot gave me a new species for this camp. Believe it is a *Miniopterus*, but looks different than others. Collected on Cape Vogel. New species up here will come hard from now on. Today is the 1st day of our 11th collecting week. Totals for the first 10 weeks: 614 specimens; 85 Marsupials; 335 Bats; 194 Rodents. Almost 3 weeks of this was lost time moving from Menai to Top Camp. The next 3 months will be almost solid collecting. Only 1 *Trattus* in my traps this a.m. Rain had sprung or ruined bait on nearly all traps. No one else caught anything. Set new line of Museum specials (25) on new jacking trail in forest. Light rain probably spoiled bait again. Boys built a bark overhang on one end of the work fly - the end the rain beats in. Now very dark. Even with bark door open, Len is doing plant work in 1/3 of my tent. He usually sleeps & works in a tent of his own. Geoff & I will bunk in together at the next camp. Walked around jacking trail in P.M. Mist swirling thru the trees. No wonder the ferns & mosses are everywhere in profusion. Did a recapitulation of all specimens collected to date. A relatively restful day for me.
Mon. 1 June 1953

Top Camp. Another wet trap night. I single turned in the only Ratius. Salvaged a skin and skull out of the shot up bat.

A bragging morning for a change. Better weather today. A few clouds drifting into camp but no rain and occasional sunshine. Boys off hunting all day but no luck. David had a long shot at a Wallaby but missed. Spent part of the P.M. setting steel traps & walking over my hacking trails. The end of one path leads to a huge Eucalyptus standing on the ridge of a steep rising down which a small brook tumbles over rock ledges. Wrote letter to Dr. & Mrs. Ward. 5:45 P.M. 4 getting close to bat-shooting time. Hope they show up tonight.

Sun sets in camp at 4 P.M. Unpinned a few more skins. Geoff & I took advantage of a patch of sun after lunch to take a bath.

My luck is still holding: went down into rivine in back of camp & noticed small bat going over water. Same flight path. Added him to collection. Kim saw bat up the hill circling the big pine trees. When I climbed up to top saw others flying against sunset. Shot one I saw it fall but could not find. Took 15 of the boys.

After dinner & Jimmy found it at the place I had marked in the grass. Both Miniopterus - anxious to compare measurements with Lowland M.

Beautiful orange glow sunset behind Goropu. Pines also outlined clouds in the river gorge but bright & clear at camp. Went jacking (took a while) from 7:30-9:30. 1 Green Possum & 1 Yg. & Brown Headed Possum (sitting on vine - looked like small owl). Very thick woolly fur. David out too, but found nothing. Back to camp. Geoff & Len collecting moths on outside of tent (light traps inside).

Measured possums while relaxed. Want to compare with morning after measurements. Looks like good weather tomorrow. Need 1 more sunny day to dry specimens.
TUES. 2 JUNE 1953 212

Top Camp. A lovely clear day. Cold last night, but I slept warm. Liked it. Brought in 1 Melomys + 2 Rattus (Gray-B.). No one else had anything in traps. David has reset his trap line today. Timmy went down towards the river scrub this a.m. I did not get back until 2 p.m. Brought in a 9 Brown-headed Ringtail with a large pouch young that just about filled the pouch. Both alive, but no sun to take pictures. Young made a squeaky chattering (raspy) that sounded like a bird screeching. Have the 9 in a plastic bag hoping that parasites will hop off. Have collected a fair number up here for the U.S. Public Health Service. They are studying possible disease vectors. Drying went well today. I un-pinned a few more specimens. An native came into camp today, member of a village hunting party (with dogs!). They are on the mountain across the Kwariu River. Have killed 10 Tree Shrews; they smoke the meat to take home + 2 Spiny Anteaters! He has promised to bring us some specimens for tobacco. I hope so! We certainly need a man with a good hunting dog to get the rarer large specimens. Kim was very helpful as translator. I have the Daga language names for most of the local animals. This man from Bonenau—brother of Gov. Interpreter who came up to top camp with us. Working tonight. Saw nothing for first time, but ran into mystery. Could hear some animal feeding in leafy top of tree, cry something like flying fox, but when I fired shot nothing flew. Fruit (?) dropping to ground. Stayed there for over 1/2 hour. Light getting dim, so I came home. Geoff has the light trap in my tent, not many micros tonight. Hope the hunter comes tomorrow. Drying smells over lamp. Smells good.
Top Camp. More collecting excitement this A.M. About 1 a.m. Tim was awake & he heard noises in the trees down in the ravine. He woke David & the two found 2 giant rats (Hyomys). David shot one. Another new species for the trip. One by one they come in & I've specimens today. Made up the large pouch young of the brown ringtail. 2 Melomys + 5 Rattus. Cleaned the skeleton of Hyomys. Worked on specimens most of day. This A.M. several carriers arrived from Biniguni. Ken sent them up with white sugar, rice, salt, yams & sweet potatoes. A 7/3's of a bottle of rum (Len & Geoff are running short!). Still have over 20 bottles of lemon powder. Also sent betel nut for the boys (just like candy to them - except that if they chew too much they become stupid). Note from Ken detailing all his plans for future carrier supplies from coast. insects will not have to go down to help Ken.

Bat shooting in late P.M. saw only one at top of hill.

No eye tonight - fired 3 times & did not bring it down. Jimmy came home early today with a huge black & white cuscus. Our 3rd of this species & by far the largest. Decided to take a rest from hacking tonight. Read & dried skulls over handle of lamp. To bed early 10:15 P.M. Misted up this P.M. - a little rain. Stars out Tonight.
THURS. 4 JUNE 1953

Top Camp. A LUCKY DAY FOR ME WITH THE SURPRISE COMING IN AN UNEXPECTED MANNER. I HAD JUST COME INTO MY TENT AT 9.30 P.M. FROM JACKING (NOTHING) WHEN I HEARD SOMETHING BOUNCE ON MY TENT TOP & SLIDE DOWN ONTO THE GROUND. TOO LARGE FOR A MOTH - WENT OUTSIDE AND SAW A SMALL RAT LYING NEXT TO MY TENT. GRABBED FOR HIM - HE GRABBED ME. A LITTLE FRUIT BAT (POSS. SYCONYCTERIS) WITH LONG, POINTED Muzzle & A VERY LONG PINK TONGUE. NO TAIL. A SOFT BROWNISH GRAY ALL OVER. OVAL EARS SLIGHTLY TUBE-NOSED (1 MM.). HAIR LONG, SOFT, THICK. HAIR ON PROXIMAL 1/3 OF FOREARM.

COVERING LARGE FLIGHT MUSCLES. WING MEMBRANE ATTACHED TO DORSAL SURFACE OF FEET (NOT SIDE). INNER (DORSAL) SURFACE OF WING MEMBRANE FURRED. 2ND FINGER 3 PHALANGES - 1 LONG, 2 VERY SHORT - CLAWED. NO TRAGUS. COLLECTED 2 PARASITES. EVERY TRIP PRODUCES 1 OR MORE UNUSUAL COLLECTING EXPERIENCES AND THIS IS ONE.

WENT OUT WITH ISILELE IN P.M. TO SET MORE STEEL TRAPS FOR GIANT RATS. FOUND A WALLABY IN TRAP! 2 IN ONE TRAP. FOUND ONE THIS A.M. IN ONE OF MY CONCEALED, UNBAITED SETS. MINE HAD A LARGE POUCH. YOUNG - ALL LEGS. MADE A SHARP CHITTERING CALL. WITH CUSCUS + 7 RATTUS - 10 SPEC.

FOR THE DAY. JUST BEFORE DINNER I SHOT ANOTHER MINIOPTERUS IN FOREST. ALMOST DARK AND I WAS LUCKY IT FELL & SWUNG ON A LEAF. GOOD SUNNY A.M. KIM TOOK PICTURES OF ME WITH STEREO. HOLDING WALLABY WITH JOEY STICKING HIS HEAD OUT OF POUCH, AND ALSO CUSCUS. TOOK 2 OF GENERAL CAMP LAYOUT. GEOFF + I HAVE SETTLED ON SAT, JUNE 6 (CORONATION DAY) TO CLimb MANGAB. WILL HAVE BOYS TAKE UP SOME TRAPS. IF CLEAR WILL ATTEMPT A FEW HYPER-StereOS. GEOFF'S BOYS MADE A GOOD HAUL OF TINY FROGS TODAY. SCARCE UP HERE.
Top Camp. A quiet day spent in camp. Wallaby, 2 Bats & 2 Rats for the day. My prize Long-tongued bat made up very well. The boys took the wallaby body to boil up for stew. Wrapped 90 specimens today. My Knockdown Box may not hold all my Top Camp specimens. Len was off for the day on the duck track collecting in the Beech Forest. Geoff and I made our plans for tomorrow. G. has written a proclamation to be read on the summit. Then cached in a vial in a stone pile. He is taking a tiny swallow of rum to toast the Queen. I will have my Bar of Cadbury’s Chocolate which Alice sent to me in Menapi. All the boys are coming with us except Len’s 2 boys who went up with Len the first week. All we need now is a good break of weather. Today has been clear & sunny. Tonight is clear but the cloud banks are heavy in the River Valleys. Saw no bats at dusk. Lovely Sunset behind Gorupu. Jacked close by for 1½ hour but saw nothing. 2 Carriers came up today from Biniguni with more food supplies. Took message back to Len with them. He leaves for Biawa to await our supplies coming from Samarai on “Ruru” or “Betty Ann.” Had boys bring in all traps today excepting steels in concealed sets near camp. I also have 17 rat traps out which I will run before we leave tomorrow. Almost 10:30 p.m. Will try to get off about 7:30 a.m.
Top Camp, Coronation Day. My 2nd marsupial mouse in a forest trap, measured & skinned before breakfast.

Geoff & I and 5 of the boys (all except Bobby & Tommy who stayed with Len & Niko who is at Baiawa) started the climb up Mt. Maneau at 7:15 A.M. A very steep pitch up to the crest ridge made us puff for ½ hr. Sky cloudy, but we decided to risk weather since we had made plans long ago to celebrate the day on top. At 8:15 we were well along the west ridge which in places narrowed to knife edges of only 2 feet with steep grassy drops on both sides. Geoff took it very easy & we had plenty of time to look around & see the country unfold. Top of Cape Vogel visible in the early sun glow—also Moi Bori Bay where we first landed.

Mt. Dayman uncovered to the S. as we climbed (Guariu River runs between Maneau & Dayman). Mountain pipits common. Trail leads over 2 high knobs with saddles between. At 9:15 we were on the last slope up summit ridge. Summit 9:30, 2,725 M. (8,856 ft)

Little grass, heather & fern covered ridge with 3 small knobs. Boys peeled & carved 3 poles & stuck them in ground on knobs. I built a stone cairn. Geoff explained Coronation to the boys & read a statement memorializing the day & listing all names. This was folded & put into plastic tube which we placed in cairn. Many pictures taken. Sun out & good views to S. & W. We found a sheltered spot a few feet from summit to eat lunch. I had saved a ¼ lb. bar of chocolate. Also had lemon powder drink. Geoff toasted the Queen with a little vial of rum. Boys had tea & rice. More pictures, then started down at 12:50. My 3 boys set 60 traps in scrub near summit. Will go up again tomorrow. Camp at 2:15. A wonderful day! Made up my "mouse" Army ration dinner for a treat tonight. Went fishing from 7:15-7:45—nothing. wrist line now 36 inches!
Sun. 7 June 1953

Top Camp. A peaceful day until 10:30 A.M. When David, Luk and I. & T. Shêlep arrived back in camp after climbing to Maneau summit to pick up their 60 traps. 7 gray-bellied Rattus and 1 Pigny Possum (Eudromicia) - our first on the Expedition. & the first one in the flesh I have ever seen. Aboroa real hard to trap - none on Cape York Exp. Now have 13 species for this camp. Possibly more if the Rattus & Melomys can be divided. Trapped on ground among tree roots. Label for a bone to read Mt. Maneau (Maneau Range): summit area - mossy forest 25 m below summit. Boys skinned catch after lunch and made them up before supper. Rebailed traps (20 Rat & 6 concealed steel). Boys have 60 MUS. SPEC. & 10 concealed steel - all in forest close to camp. Tomorrow will trap beech forest on back track. At 11:15 A.M. 2 runners with mail arrived, 2 letters from mother April 19 & May 14; 1 from KAY April 19 (mailed 2018 from Phil by friends); 1 from Royal Bank (bought 25 more shares at 831 pesos); 1 from Stan Grierson - which I have answered. Also a radiogram from Bunting advising that our stores for next 2 camps are coming out by boat soon. Mail day is always a happy event. Had written 5 in A.M. before mail came. Enclosed diary pp. thru June 6 (#128). Letters also to C.D. Brown & Lords & to Royal Bank. No junking tonight. Letter writing instead. I heard but did not see a 2nd sp. of B. of P. in forest. Geoff and I feel fine today after our climb. We found out today (G. rec'd. a program) that we had celebrated the wrong day for Coronation! (Actually on the 2nd), Don't know how G. slipped up on that one! We still had a wonderful time. Also mailing 2 Maneau rolls of film to Kodak. Only 10:1 p.m. time for another letter or two. Saw scrub hens in forest today. Have sold a few moths for G. intent tonight.
Mon. 8 June 1953

Top Camp. The 60 traps near camp yielded 2 species of Rattus and my first Antechinus. I now have 8. An easy morning. We were in the clouds. Sun had driven rain from the north for a few hours. Len and I both worked in my tent to keep out of the wind. Unpinned & wrapped a few more specimens in P.M. Rain upset my plans to visit the Beech forest. I have the boys start trapping there. They put out traps around camp again. Like & I went out hatching for almost 3 hours tonight. Shot a young & brown-headed Ringtail. Looked like a small rat when I first saw him. Heard & saw a few bats but no chance to collect. David was out too, but I heard no shots. We went down the mountain stream gorge to N. of camp. Very steep slopes. Len showed me a giant maidenhair fern he collected - 3 feet high. Also another new Rhododendron. Sweet potatoes are still holding out - good! Kim made delicious rissoles tonight out of canned fish. He can fix up all sorts of ordinary food so that it tastes good. His bread didn't quite bake today - doughy in the center - but it still tastes good. Light trap working well for Geoff tonight. He caught a medium sized pale powder blue moth which is very beautiful. Runners left early this A.M. with mail & film. 2 weeks from today we should be settled in our 2nd or middle camp.
Top Camp. Only other specimen today besides the ring-tail - a white rat; - until Jimmy came in about noon with 3 tree-climbing rats new to the collection (Pogonomys) grayish-brown with snow-white underparts. Dorsally prehensile tail tip. Larger and different color than our other species of Pogonomys. After an easy morning, I took the boys down the back track into the beech forest to the dark shelter (about 40 min. downhill). There they cooked their rice while I wandered down the trail looking for tree-climbers. I found none. Boys set 67 traps along trail. Tomorrow may tell an interesting story (I hope). Many holes at bases of trees. Climbed back to camp about 3:10 P.M. Saw 2 adult Burds-of-Paradise (long black tails) + one immature. I was evidently defending territory; he was chasing the others continually. Many small birds in forest. Took 2 pictures of hoop pines. David + I skinned Jimmy’s catch. He found them in a hole in a tree. Made 1 skeleton + pickled 2 bodies. Made up & pinned skins after dinner. This makes at least 14 species for this camp. No jacking tonight. Clear in AM. Clouds in P.M. + clear + cool tonight. Betel nut (5 apiece) issued to boys tonight. They were chorus singing most of the evening. Good voices. Saw lovely magenta orchids in bloom on tree today. Some of the beech trees are 3-4 ft. in diameter. Our 2nd camp will be very different from this one - right in the forest -- no views. Geoff left his light trap in the forest all night - good catch, large + small.
Top camp. David came back at 8:30 with his Beech forest (Nothofagus) catch. A very dark Melomys and several gray-bellied Rattus. Among these specimens was a pale Melomys (partial albino). Had brown not pink eyes. Thought it was something different at first. Color mutation very similar to Mus I caught on Cape Hatteras. I had 2 large Melomys in my trap line. Total of 111 for the day. This P.M. David went out looking in tree holes and came back with 6 Pogonomys! Too late to measure skin. So I have a good start on tomorrow. We are lucky to get some of these little tree climbing rats because this species has not trapped. A bright day with only an occasional cloud drifting into our pocket. Unpinned Mt. Maneau specimens today. Another day or two will see my total reach 700 for trip 1 over 200 for camp. A black bird (about size of Robin) with vivid yellow on head (looked like Black eye streaks also). Geoff had another beautiful moth in trap this morning — green with scalloped design. 9:30 P.M. Have just come in from frustrating evening of searching. First I walked within a few feet of a Wallaby without seeing him until he jumped into the scrub. Then on 3 occasions I heard the soft high-pitched grunting of what I am sure are giant rats. Twice I could hear them chewing on wild figs that had fallen to the ground. Once I saw one running thru the undergrowth. No chance for a shot. No ring tails tonight. David was out earlier and brought in a Wallaby this makes our 100th Marsupial for the trip (about 15% of my total). Geoff has a light trap in my tent tonight and is sitting in here (reading). Have some work to do in my notebook.
Top camp. Tonight the mystery animal of last night put in an appearance at the edge of camp. I was walking around the tent, looking for moths, when he heard the leaves rustle. He called me and I found one of the giant bats (Uromys anah) about 15 ft. up in a small tree. Shot her with .410 (#12). Was making the high pitched grunt that I have heard before. The easiest catching night I have had. Found 3 kinds of parasites. This is specimen #100 from this camp. This afternoon while I was making up skins I heard Jimmy chipping up the scrub. Iselele, Kim + I went up to help. Jimmy had found another hole full of Pogonomyms - 6 of them this time (including 2 young). Rain in A.M. + early P.M. clearing later. Lik lik sick - don't know if Iselele ran his traps or not. Only 6 Pottus today in addition to the wallaby + David's 6 Pogonomyms. Geoff had a fine menu tonight: Soup + crackers, bacon + yams, real cocoa + a cookie for me + some Army chocolate; also fresh baked bread + strawberry jam. Walked up the hill to look for early-flying bats + saw the loveliest sunset yet. Gororup was indigo against a yellow-orange sky - the valley between filled with a sea of milky-white almost translucent clouds. The high clouds overhead were tinged rose color. The yellow glow lasted for a long time. Kim helped Iselele skin the wallaby today - the boys hailed the body. Kim caught one Pottus today. I'm asking for more traps. Clear + cold tonight. Boys singing + clapping.
Fri. 12 June 1953

Top Camp. Alongside at the Sinking Table: 6 Pogonomyms, 1 Melomys, 1 Wh-b. Rattus, 1 Uromys, 6 Gr-b. Rattus. Lik-Lik was back on the nob so the sinking went very quickly. All skulls cleaned by noon. All made up by 4.10 p.m. One of my concealed steel traps caught a scrub hen (Megalopode), if it had not broken its leg I would have released it. Saved the head, 1 leg + lying; gave the rest to Kim who made a fine stew for lunch. Jimmy shot a large pigeon in A.M. + we had another stew tonight. Poor Geoff doesn’t think much of our game diet. Showered off + on today but clear tonight. Woods were wet for packing out. There was lots of activity in the wild pig trees. Heard a number of giant rats but saw none. Nothing collected today by boys. Lenhurst his shoulder a few days ago + he is somewhat handicapped in his field collecting. However, his boys go out + usually bring in some good material. One found 3 new ferns – it seems as if there is no end of them. Geoff is getting very restless up here. He is collecting very little + is anxious to get to the lower camps where he will have more material to work on. I don’t believe that he realizes that these mountain specimens are much more important than the lowland ones. There is a great deal of micro stuff here but its collecting demands special technique and a good pair of eyes. He could stay within a few yards of camp + make a fine collection; instead he tramps all over the country + finds very little. I am not satisfied that I have all the possible mammals (there are certainly more bats) that live here. But then it sometimes takes months to catch on to the habits of the rarer animals. We have really been very lucky in our catches. 11 p.m. A fairly warm night.
SAT. 13 JUNE 1953

Top Camp. A dull, rainy, misty day with the sun trying to break thru occasionally but soon giving up. Had one Melomy in my line - David & I Bates. Our total for the past week 61 - one of my best. Grand Total 714. The end of July should see me past our first 1,000 - I hope. Boys brought in Beech Forest traps. Had hoped to set in high scrubs above camp but due to rain I did not send them up. Set around camp. Kim asked for 6 more - Losima also wanted 6 - the fever is spreading. Last night I left the Rat Bodies at one end of the work fly on the ground. This A.M. they had disappeared! This P.M. set up 17 concealed steel around remaining bodies. Not too optimistic. Wrapped more skins. Gauze wrapped my few formalin specimens. Boys issued with betel nut this P.M. All singing & clapping. Getting dark - time to see if bats are flying. 10:30 P.M. A frustrating 2 hours of hunting. Heard at least 6 giant bats but could not shine my torch. Dropping wild figs all around me. Gooch was nearly devoured by one last night. When putting out his light trap in the gully. Found 1 Ring-tail to-night - high in leafy top. Shot did not bring him down & the most have scrambled into another tree. Small bats all thru the woods. Sky has cleared. Wet & drizzly in forest tonight. The rain this A.M. set off the "peepers". Kim & I finally found one in the loose humus. Small with red belly - a very striking frog, new for Geoff's collection. He put his boys on the track, but Losima was the star collector. Much micro life in the humus. Too wet for Len to collect today. Just one more week in this camp. Soup, fish cakes, peas, rice, bread & marmalade, & lemon drink for dinner.
Top camp. I have the luck of the Irish! The animal that was stealing bodies came back again last night & promptly caught himself. A beautiful white-spotted Native Cat (Satellius alborumcatus) - our first of the trip. Also we caught 1 Melamys & 2 Rattus in his 6 traps! Also another Rattus (1 p whit) came in. Jimmy arrived about noon with a pocketful of Podonomys. Total of 12 for the day. A good start on my 13th collecting week. The collecting part of the trip is now ¾ finished. 24 weeks more will see us ready to leave for home. Raining off now today. Kasima took 6 more traps & Kim now wants steel traps to put in a wallaby pad he has found. Weather too poor for boys to trap high scrubs. Will see what tomorrow brings. Len's boys went collecting on their own today & brought in some good plants. We had the last of our beef meal today & the ham is almost down to the bone. However we have plenty of food for this last week & then some. Some excitement tonight. David was looking in the gully tonight & spotted a big gray & white Cuscus. After the first shot about 5 of us trailed down to help. He started moving thru the treetops with the boys trying to follow him with their flashlights. 2 more shots & David had him. I did not go out tonight.
16/6 Mon. 15 June 1953

Top camp. Another busy day at the table. I am up sick again — 3 Melomys, 3 B. Rattus & 2 G. Rattus out of 10 traps. I had 1 Melomys, 4 B. Rattus & 2 boys & Kim. A total of 15 with David’s Cuscus. Skinning went well & I started my study skins after lunch. The native cat from yesterday came up very well. He is larger than any of the 14 listed in Shaw Mayer. The 2 flower—flower boys, Jimmy & the 2 bug—bug boys went off on their own collecting trip to the river today. No mammals but Len’s boys found a new palm. My three went up to the scrub beyond the Maneru Ridge this P.M. to set their traps. Brand new territory. We may have a big catch tomorrow. Elevation about 2430 M. - 200 M. above this camp. About 3/4 mile N.E. Bye, of here. Len wandered around in the P.M. taking black & white pictures, including one of myself, David & Isi. Isi, hunting for fleas on the cuscus. He spent the P.M. developing the roll. Came out fairly well. Kim took 2 steel traps to put in a wallaby pad. One of the Melomys today is the largest I have ever seen — just over 300 mm. No word from Ken in some time but we are expecting carriers next Sunday. No arching tonight. Baited my native cat set again. Fresh baked bread today. Mail may come soon since the district patrol officer is due in Biniguni in a day or so. New moon over the hill tonight.
Top Camp. An exciting catch, this a.m. but I did not realize it until tonight when I looked at my specimen carefully. Caught a large rat in the same unbaited steel trap that took the wallaby a few days ago. Looked like Uromys. I let it go at that. Tonight while pinning it out I noticed how different the tail appeared. Upon checking the skull I immediately found that I had our first specimen of Anisomys - a rat with strikingly compressed lower incisors. We also had an assortment of 16 other Rattus & Melomys, so I had my 2nd busy day in a row. The specimens in 3 days. Losima again brought in some good specimens. LEN went down to the beach forest for the day & GEOFF & I had the camp to ourselves - a most pleasant sunny day. We took hot baths in the sun after lunch. DAVID gave G. P. a haircut. I had my first shave in four days. 2 runners arrived in camp about 10 a.m. from Biniguni with letters from Ken detailing his plans to move us down to 2nd camp. Stores arrived on the "Ruru" at Balawa on the 10th. Ken is coming up to 2nd camp on Fri. with carriers. They will be here on Sat. A.M. to move us out. Boys will bring in all traps tomorrow. That will give me Thurs. & Fri. to dry all skins & skulls. TIMMY came in at 2:30 with another brown-headed ring-tail which he found in a tree hole. Maybe tomorrow will be another big day. Runner also brought up a full bottle of Rum for LEN & GEOFF, who have been rationing themselves for days. Also a letter to G. from AILSA detailing all the Samoan coronation events. Ken says he is bringing up some more chocolate bars. No outside mail. A beautiful clear cold (first for some time) night with the new moon bright over the hill. No jacking tonight.
Top Camp. My other notebook has run out so will continue in my field book. Another good specimen day - 13 (11 Ring-tailed Melomys, 2 Wai-o Patus, 7 Greb Patus). Makes 55 for last 4 days of this week. A beautiful clear sunny day following a cold night. Specimens dried well and planned a little more. All-traps came in today except a few of my species. Billy came in from trap hunting with a Miniop terus which he found under a bough on a tree.

And late this P.M. my luck was in again. I had walked up to the top of the hill to watch and photograph the sunset sky behind Gordon Peak. And to try for bats.

Crystal clear horizon. Was just about to return to camp when I saw a bat coming along the ridge high and fast. A long but perfect shot gave me another new species for the collection. Do not know generic name but it is a free-tailed bat (Micropterus). Large, chocolate brown big ears. Now have 18 species for Camp here. 270 specimens collected. One parasite - 2 Eleph. + 1 wingless fly. An exciting catch. Len also had good luck. He sure he has a new genus of large flowering tree. An important find. No packing tonight. Will do as much specimen packing as I can tomorrow.

Thurs. 18 June 1953

Top Camp. Made up my 7 bats in A.M. Unpacked more specimens & wrapped dry ones. Finally put horse shoes in the knockdown box - filled it. Have 82 more to fit in some plastic boxes for the black boxes. Also counted, sorted & packed skulls in the 40 & 20 boxes. I have saving. Will carry only a few camp shoes down to 2nd on Middle Camp. Rest will go down by carrier to Biniguni. Walked up to see the sunset tonight. Low cloud sea in valleys. Wonderful yellow orange sky behind Gordon Peak. I never tire of this scene. Stayed until the Southern Cross shone out clear. Only Miniopterus flying. No luck. New brown bread tomorrow - good! Boys eat most of day but I don’t think they tried very hard to find anything. Clean & cold again tonight. Carriers come up to mix camp tomorrow while we finish packing. Tacking for an hour. Shot at a wallaby but did not get him. Woods rather quiet. Still giant rats but little else at night.

Fri. 19 June 1953

Top Camp. Our final full day in camp. Very hot after the sun was well up. Perfect for drying the rest of my specimens. Wire-strapped my knockdown box (170 specimens) & wrapped in tarpaulin for transport to Biniguni. Will carry skulls + more skins to 2nd camp & pack in 1/2 empty black box there. All skulls dry & packed. We are all ready to strike camp tomorrow. Walked north-west along the ridge this P.M. to take Kodachrome of Mt Moreau & the Gordon Peaks. The lowlands to N. 4 Collingwood Bay
We were a small bandset of four with only the summitline Grade through Island sticking thru in the distance. Tonight I walked up the hill to watch my last Gordon sunset. One of the most beautiful rose & yellow fading into orange, salmon yells. Hulme directly overhead, Geoffs opened a bottle of gin tonight and he and had coffee & tea color & a cookie. Boys & I looked for the weather in Glen. But could only find nothing. Brought in my last 4 small things. Leaving my get at end of work. Fly out tonight. Finished another roll of film today. No hacking tonight. Saw only 1 bat.

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Sat. 20 June 1952

Top of the Middle Camp. (This is being written on the 21st.) We were up at 6. Rolled our snags, tent ceiling down, packed into packs. All gear then placed in 2 lines - 1 for single loads, the other double loads. Ken arrived about 12-1 am. A very good meal for all. Hours before the 1st of. Sorry for them. We had black cooked for them & finally at 11:30 they pulled their loads & started down the mountain. A lovely sunny day. Len & his boys went on ahead to collect on the way down a carrier on way up & had a brush fire which swept the track thru a narrow part. This held us up for about 40 minutes while they cut a new path thru the scrub. Very clean. Could see all of Cape Nelson and its volcanic peaks, also Goodenough Island far to N.E. Also rats in middle to N.W. Good track, soft with humus. Slept great at first. Geoffs, Ken & I brought up gear & arrived at middle camp (island) at about 2:30 pm. All gear safely down. Wrapped another. Tarps around my specimen case. Saw it go off to Binguini. Took pictures in camp. Then, in the afternoon, had our tents up & beds rigged. Ken had a surprise for me - a Binguini counselor with his 2 dogs! He had brought in 2 excuses before we arrived. The boys had also found a small brown mink tail in a tree in camp. 3 good specimens. Had boys put out 15 traps. A piece + 1 I put 6 around work fly. Measured skins. After dinner, Len & Geoffs started celebrating the successful mine down. The mountain. They were pleasantly drunk when I went to bed at midnight. And they didn't go to bed all night. Ken & I were up at 6. with lots of packing. Got all my extra skins & all skulls into a Black fox (142). For carriers to take to Binguini. Len & Geoffs were standing around in a complete daze.
MIDDLE CAMP. (SEE ABOVE.) CARRIES OFF TO BINIGUNI ABOUT 9. COUNSELOR OF WITH HIS DOG AND WIFE, HUNTING. CAUGHT RATTUS IN WORK. MY BOYS HAD AN EASY DAY SKINNING THE 2 CUSCUSES AND THEIR RING TAILS. HE JUST FINISHED HAVING UP SKINS AFTER LUNCH WHEN OUR HUNTER CAME BACK WITH A BIG & TREE CLIMBER. GRIZZLED HEAD, THICK BODY, SHORT HIND FEET. AN ININCENTILY TALLER TAIL. WEIGHED 15 LBS. KEN & I RIGGED HIM ON TREE TRUNK. I TOOK SEVERAL PICTURES. WE ARE CAMPED IN THE MIDDLE OF OAK-BEECH FOREST ON ONE OF THE MOUNTAIN RIDGES. NO VIEW. SKINNED THE TREE CLIMBER. WENT BACK WITH KEN. HEARD RATS SAW RATS BUT SHOT NOTHING. BACK AT CAMP TO FIND HIM TAKING AXE OUT TO DAVID WHO HAD LOCATED COCOON. ANIMAL WENT FROM TREE TO TREE WITH BOYS FOLLOWING LEAF NOISE. WENT IN CIRCLES HUNTING A BIG TREE NEAR BOYS 'FLY'. DAVID SHOT BUT POSSUM HANG UP, SO BILLY CHOPPED TREE DOWN. OUR 3RD CUSCUS. THEY DID A FINE JOB TO FOLLOW CUSCUS SO WELL & PATIENTLY, GEORGE SNORING HIS HEAD OFF WHEN I WENT TO BED. NOT COLD BUT SLEPT IN MY BAG. BOYS PUT TRANSFERS (NOT YESTERDAY). CAMP SMOKING DOWN WELL TODAY.

Wed, 22 June 1953

MIDDLE CAMP. I WILL REMEMBER THIS DAY FOR A LONG TIME. THE BOYS & I WERE QUIETLY AT WORK PREPARING OUR CUSCUS THE RATTUS MEMOMYS WHEN THE COUNSELOR HIS WIFE & DOG WALKED INTO CAMP. THE WIFE WAS CARRYING THE MORNING CATCH IN HER FOREHEAD SLING BAG - A RING-TAIL POSSUM (SIMILAR TO THE GOLDEN-GREEN ONE AT TAD OAK, BUT A DIFFERENT SPECIES) AND A 7-FRAGGLES! - THE FAMOUS LONG-FRAGGLED SPINY ANT EATER OF BINIGUNI. THIS IS ONLY THE 2ND ONE TAKEN ON 4 ARMSHOLD EXP. TO M.G. QUITE RARE IN THE SIEVER MAMMAL COLLECTION. MUCH MORE HAIR THAN THE SHORT-FRAGGLED CAFE YORK PARACINES & FEATHER SPINES - THESE ALMOST CONCEALED BY THE HAIR. I TRIED TO TAKE PICTURES BUT LIGHT VERY POOR. KEN DIDN'T WANT ME TO SHOW MY RELATION IN FRONT OF THE COUNSELOR. SINCE HAVEN'T SETTLED ON PRICES YET. THE ANIMAL IS EVIDENTLY WELL KNOWN TO THE MAMERU PEOPLE (IN DAGA DIALECT-KUTAYO). IN THE P.M. DAVID BROUGHT IN A MORE BROWN-CAPED RING-TAILS THAT HE FOUND IN TREE HOLE. HE SAW ANOTHER AT NIGHT. KEN ALSO SHOT A SMALL ONE (AS USUAL) I HAD 3 SPECIMENS TO PUT AFTER DINNER SO I DID NOT GO OUT. THESE WOODS ARE RICH WITH LIFE. WE WILL HAVE A BUSY WINTER. LEN FOUND A PRIMITIVE "FISH-TAIL" FERN TODAY. RARE.

Thurs, 23 June 1953

MIDDLE CAMP. MORE EXCITEMENT. THIS MORNING THE COUNSELOR WALKED IN WITH ANOTHER & TREE CLIMBER WITH A HAIRLESS "JOEY" (ROUCH YOUNG). I CAN'T
RETURNE FROM MISSION. TOOK PICTURES OF THE CHILDREN THE NEXT DAY. AFTER LUNCH I SKIPPED ZAMBULUS AND THE LONG PERK WAS QUITE ENJOYABLE. BUT THE REST OF THE日
CAMP EXHIBITED EXCITEMENT WITH TACHARUEND. THE BOYS SKIPPED THE STREET
WHERE I TOOK PICTURES. THE COUNCIL GETS THE MEAT WHICH HAD BEEN
HANGING UNDER THE MIRROR TO BINGUNI. HEMLER'S DEER HAD BEEN
VENTURED TO THE LOCAL RESTAURANT. HE NEEDED A GOOD FEAST. LSIBUEZ DIAMOND TOO TO HELPING SET Down
AND SEND UP ANOTHER HUNTER WITH DOGS. I HOPE SO BECAUSE WITHOUT
DOGS IT IS ONLY LUCK THAT DRINGS IN SOME OF THESE MAMMALS. THICK
CLOUD AND RAIN AND DARK CAYTED ME IN THE MIDDLE OF MY WORK. SO I ASKED
TODAY FOR THE DAY. AFTER DINNER WROTE LETTERS TO K, DR. ANTHONY, UNDE
WILL, FREDERICK AND N. C. ROLES, HES MEMOIR AND ALSO GO OUT WITH KEN
FRANK LEAVES BINGUNI FOR BANGARA IN A DAY OR SO STAYS THE MAIL
WITH HIM. No tracking - too wet.

176 Wed 14 June 1953
MIDDLE CAMP. No real surprises today. David had a nice "naive
eat" and is very much of a mind for Maneu. Only 1. Rattus. I CHANCE TO
OUT CAUGHT UP IN MY WORK. KEN LEFT IN EARLY AM. He
TRAM I.UBIANA, DOWN WITH HIM. NUTS STAYS HERE TO HELP IN THE KITCHEN.
Skinned out the feet of ZAGUGUH AND HIS SPINE MUSCLES. A WIND
STORM, THUNDER, RAIN, TO CURE FOR A DAY OR SO. TROY CAME IN WITH
A GUSCUIS THIS A.M. Toos were hunting all day, but found nothing. I
WENT BACK AROUND THE UP TRAIL. NOT OPTIMISTIC. SHOT MY FISTS
BUT FOR THIS CAMP - MINOR. TACKING. AF TER DINNER HAD A
LITTLE RUM SALLY BAY. DAVID OUT IN BRIGHT. A GOOD
START FORM MORROW. MEAN OUT BRIGHT TONIGHT. WENT OUT FOR 4
HR. TO LOOK FOR GIANT RATS - COULD HEAR THEM. But they
ARE VERY HARD TO SEE. IN CLOUDS MOST OF DAY. KIM MADE A WONDORtUL
MEAL TONIGHT WITH VERY LIGHT GUST.

176 Thurs. 25 June 1953
MIDDLE CAMP. THE DAY STARTED SLOWLY, BUT WOUND UP IN A BLAZE OF EX-
CITEMENT. A QUIET SUNNY MORNING MEASURING AND SKINNING. LEN DACH AT 7 A.M.
AFTER LUNCH, WHILE I WAS MAKING UP SKINS. LIKLIK CAME IN WITH A LIVE
ANTECHINUS WHICH HE HAD CAUGHT BY HAND. NEN FOR THIS CAMP. ALSO A RATTUS
FROM HIS TRAP LINE. DAVID WENT UP THE TRAIL TACKING BEFORE DARK, AND ON
HIS RETURN SHOT A BROWN-HEADED RING-TAIL AND A LARGE BROWN RING-TAIL.
Middle Camp, Fri. 26 June 1953

Middle Camp, 11-8. Middle Camp. A Melomys in trap made 9 specimens. 7 species in day. Collected parasites from Hyomys and Melomys. Saved specimen of Pogonomyms. Geoff and his 2 boys continued on their out trail today. Until they reached the brook - a fair sized MT. Torrential rain in rain forest, left at 9 - back at 2 P.M. Just as clouds cleared in and rain started. Didn't last long. Full moon tonight. David shot 7 brown-headed ring-tails tonight - one with fair sized young. I shot 2 rats - missed both. Put my bat net up again in a tunnel-like part of trail. Niko finally caught one of the 6 p.m. clock cicadas - a beauty about 2 inches long. Made a meat set with 3 steels. We had soup, stew, rice pudding for dinner. Boys heard a dog not too far. From camp - we think they may be up from Biniguni hunting for us. They may show up in camp any day.

SAT. 27 JUNE 1953

Middle Camp. Today is summed up in 1 word - Rain. We have been very fortunate not to have had more so we are not complaining. Caught a specimen of a new genus. For expedition in small trap just outside of the work fly. A fawn and white mouse, long tail and long slender feet, big ears (Loventzimys). An exciting catch. Like like caught a native cat in a meat set. Today ended 14th collecting week. 128 marsupials; 344 bats; 362 rodents; 1 monotreme. Total 841. For week, 64. Runner arrived with mail at lunchtime. K. #s 11, 12, 13 (clippings) 14 (last 6th June); mother May 1, 27; Dr. May, 12; Dottie, May 30; Bus P., J. A. Bonanza!

MON. 29 JUNE 1953


TUES. 30 JUNE 1953

MIDDLE CAMP. A LITTLE HOG WAS SEEN AT THE CAMPFIRE. THE AIR WAS STILL AND QUIET.
Also 5 Melonys & 3 Rattus, all of which were kept in histograms.

Dried night saw dust. A good catch for a wet night. Showers wind & sunshine all day. Ken walked up the mountain from Bingham (left at 8:30 a.m. & arrived here at noon). Good to have someone cheerful in camp again! Told me that during a heavy rain at Bingham, the nest house roof had sprung a leak over my specimen boxes. Nothing done. David packed another brown-headed ring-tail tonight (with rough young). Ken baked an apple pie for dinner. Ken took one of Geff's boys with him today to teach him to look for small insects. More rain tonight.

Wed., 1 July 1953

Middle Creek. Like the one that brought in a wallaby which trapped in his steel set. Ken and Melonys made up the rest of the catch. More blue sky today. More rain! A few drops tonight. A slow day with specimens. Started taking most of the time. Some good parasites from wallaby. Shot a bear tonight that I but could not find one. Will shoot tomorrow. Have brought in aacosus prime - will try to take pictures tomorrow. Have also caught a more brown-headed ring-tails tonight one with a good-sized rough young. Rice pudding & apricot rolls for dinner. Ken may go down to bottom camp site tomorrow to clear more ground for flies. Let Ken look. Rug letter got quite a high but sent u plans to write Rug from Bingham.

Thurs., 2 July 1953

Middle Camp. Found the 2nd rat traps gave 4 Rattus - I with heavy locum was ventral. Took pictures of the cosus in tree. Rain continued all day. Kept me busy taking out & bringing in skins. There is a little green mold on some of the flat skins. Will have to dry over lamp tomorrow. Police runner arrived at noon, with an unexpected mail. 2 from May. 2 from Mother. 1 from Don Carter (sent June 17). No hunting tonight, wrote Jerry, Dorothy & Bill. Tom cloudless sky tonight. My eye was off & no bats were shot. Have been trying shells over the lamp while I sit here on my bed writing letters on my lap. Ken left this a.m. for bottom camp taking Nito & Timmy with him to help clear a camp site. For our next move down the mountain, Ken's boys brought in some very large orchard trees (1 1/2" dia.). This is oak forest here - no beech trees. Fresh bread today. Caught another large child today. We have 5 now.
Fri 3 July 1953

Middle Creek Patrol. Finny Day All night in camp. Only Tattus & Melomy

Lesser. Had a lovely warm bath in a cool stream while all others ran. Runner

left this move on Finny and Tomy returned after Tattus Camp. Where

we had a very small camp site. No snowing. Ran in defender

for half an hour or so. Caught another giant ic. 20 cents. Kim made a tatty

oyster with gun. Paintings tonight. Rose my treenail against the tattus

hunting bug for few minutes before the rain. 4 PM Rained.

Sum 5 July 1953

Middle Creek. The day began with an hour of sun, then it rained. Ran in
down to another very long-tailed long-tailed mouse which I cannot

track down. In Tomy's pockets. Head & body only 1 mm. Tin. They

are very rare now.

Tapped under house. Also 3 Melomy's.

P.M. I found the Minionous. I shot last night. I'm not

in good condition. We got word that Tomy (and his Lens boys) had seriously

cut his foot with a bush knife. Geoff went down the river trail

with him and found him in shock — bad loss of blood. Boys carried

him in on a stretcher. Len cleaned wound. I shot site at out with

noca's in a then put stitches in out then which muscle tissue

rubbed covered with paper. I then banded it. May have cut super-

ficial tendons. Came out of shock early tonight (burnt in warm drink).

Len gave two Ptphenoral. Sleeping well. Good paint 10 P.M. We

were in junction site in. Good evening and rocking. Geoff

a J Trent until 11 PM. Len has New Tree Fern. Geoff a tree frog.

Sun 5 July 1953

Middle Creek Patrol. Without rain. The few damp clouds drifted off

the ridge. Drove up a good sp. at the Miniatures. We were in

a good paint. A good paint. Tomy's had Pheasant. A M. F. had

a good paint. We were in a good paint. We were in a good paint. A
to F. of 'Eagle' Fuss. Our patient 'Fuss' was running in a fever. We

were not so bad. Well a few days should see him picking up. Shot

a bear at rock to back place. A story. Paints Miniatures. Toms is Lean.

Animals had a bad. I could not locate in the trees. Had another

snow set at my trail but no hit. Mercious meat pie for dinner. Geoff

packed snow for to be sent to Bottom Camp. Carriers may arrive to-

morrow. Boys too shantarke winns to draw for rest of our stay here.
On the 6th of July, 1953, the writer finished making up skins early. About 2:00 AM, I left camp for the Abnaki River (we think that's its name), by the trail. George sent eleven days ago, and I spent fifteen minutes for a fact going. Elevator to 1270 M. A lovely wild spot with the far bank rising almost entirely 40-50 feet, 400-500 feet. Ferns growing from the sheer wall; charmingly prehistoric in the gently swirling cloud mist that filled the gorge. Begins growing on the rocks, mosses and ferns covering every square inch of available space. Not a wide brown flow you can cross in a few steps. But a noisy, one. Swallows were flying low. The boys set their traps; I rigged my piece of silk, net (the one I used as a Rattan Canopy), in a flume. I hope to catch a fish. A water butt. Not much chance. David went in for a bath. The gorge is very likely filled with plants new to science, but Len has a bad knee. The trail is so steep, so slippery, so sticky; under a shallow humus that he will not attempt the walk. (You need both arms in front to climb out of the gorge.) His boys have collected new plants there each trip. Back at camp about 12:30. No backing. To bed early. A sound sleep after my strenuous walk.

On the 7th of July, 1953, the writer arrived at the bottom camp. A lot of Anisomes (I trapped one at top camp). Also a brown ring-tail. All the rest Rattles and Melomys (2 Rattlers from the brook. Misty clouds driving in most of day with sun showing occasionally. 2 Carriers arrived from Elena. With half of Keroseene [but no Nelson's Blood].

On the 8th of July, 1953, the writer expected more carriers, but Len is no doubt having trouble getting men to carry because of the pig-feasts. He has hoping to move us down to the bottom camp next Monday. They sent one small brown ring-tail today. No luck with bats. More traps to each boy. Now have 69 traps in gorge. Boys brought in 2 flower, fragments of a lovely salmon-yellow brass deer, from the gorge. Not being able to collect there himself is creeping with chills. Reading and writing in bed. Lamp warms up tent very quickly.

On the 9th of July, 1953, the writer is at the bottom camp. Geoff's 55th birthday. Gave G. (last bar of chocolate).
Thursday, July 2, 1935

Last night we caught one of the many specimens in a river gorge trap. Tonight, while I turned in, I heard the sound of some insect buzzing against the tent. I turned the lantern on the trap and discovered a large moth. We had not been going all day in the tent. I hope we will have better weather at this camp. Only one tent was set up today. By tonight, I finished the room, and was able to set up the tent. I also finished the apple pie, and made a stew of dumplings and an apple pie. We will probably go to bed early tonight.
Middle Camp. Another & Ratting of 2nd & 3rd same in this A.M. From same Ridge as the others. Mammal count checked again as 2-24 A short shower from 10 A.M. but generally a good day. Dried skins all day over lamp. Will have to carry 2 boards of pinned material in my collecting trunk. At dusk I shot 2 bats over the camp clearing - both Minstrels. After dinner hacked for an hour shot a small Gray Ringtail. And shot another, Anisograph 4. Best of all found a Dactylonyx (King-Tingered Striped Possum). Our first for Manna! We were about 12 miles fire listening to Giant rats fighting when he shine the keys of the possum. Can not understand why we have not found D. during 2 weeks we have been here. Carriers due to arrive tomorrow. Have busy day ahead of me - making skins, packing. We had Time baked in car of fire tonight - nutty flavor. Great like baked potatoes. Also apple pie & strawberry tart. Changed position of bat net.

Sun. 12 July 1953

Last day at Middle Camp - and from 7 A.M. on a rainy one. Carriers (or as including 2 women) arrived at 12:30. Had rice, fed the lords on poles - were just about to take off good down the mountain to Bottom Camp when it poured. Men under our work flew the women unrolled their fantanus leaf shelters. I crept under them finally let up. But G. & George & Lesma started down - carriers followed. Len has moved in with me - his tent went down for setting up for G. & Ken (who did not come up to Middle Camp). Carriers will be up tomorrow to take rest of camp down. Made up skins in P.M. Packed skins & skulls tonight in tent. Finished at 10 P.M. Knockdown box is jammed with skins. 193 specimens for this camp - 20 species. Dog name for Dactylonyx is Colo. Len & I had a pleasant evening talking about Archbold Expeditions & Museum. Good fire chorus.

Mon. 13 July 1953

Middle Camp to Bottom Camp (700 M). Up at 6:30. Took down flaps & tent. Nailed up my knockdown specimen box & wrapped with rubber cloth. Boys had made a litter to carry Tommy. They started down at 8 A.M. Carriers arrived at 3:45 loaded up & we were off about 10:30. It was drizzling but this soon turned into a steady down pour which became heavier as we slashed & slipped down the trail. Reached camp about noon. Down about 3000 feet. Litter came in about 1/4 H.
ALBERTA Boys Dadfly Thursday Our Road Trip Inning Ship. Lot of Great Cut.

Well, Well, We're Ready Changed Wet Clothes Had A Cup Of Tea. Boys
Ragged Our Tent, Checked My Collection Gear, Heard Latest
News. Figured We'd Stop There. After the Eighth Day, I Went To
A nearby Post Office For A Call. I Remember We Bumped Into
Some Interesting Seals. We Bumped Into Elna, Beloved Trip 25 Ball-
Outdoors. She At The Arrival Point. We Met Another West
Avalanche. That Was Enthusiastic.

Tuesday, 4 July 1953

We'll Camp Nothing But A Rainy Day With Some Drizzle. Put Out
25 More Stakes. Boys Settent. Best Of Day, Putting Camp In Order. Look-
Inning Between Tents & Fly. Building Tettee-Patras. Digging Out Unseasonal
Trees. We Have a Good Steady Water Supply - Stream a Few Minutes
Went To West of Camp. Taking For Bait (6:40 - 6:45) - Even Went By Camp But
No Alas Ha! Taking After Dinner. Was Lucky To See A Pigeon. We Ran
Our Trees Passed With A Bob Char But A 6.00.9 Found Him. Fortunately Only
2 Shot Went Down But No Luck. Either Very Little Hone Or None
The Small Beastie Forest's Height. Ants Eating Bait on Tents.

Wed. 15 July, 1953

Bottom Camp - That Loven Time Full And Shorter. Camp For Me. I
Had Only Two Out Of 34. Traps, Luck 10 - 35. However, The One (caught
At Base Of Nine-Meter Tree) Was A New One For The Collection. M. F. 4.59 /
Relay Is A Pigeon. We Also Discovered A Squirrel. D. Relays Silver
About 15 And 4 Relays In A Short Tail. Ken A. Davis Left For Pinigan
After Breakfast. David To Return Friday P.M. Roy Arrived In Camp About
6 From 3, Where He Had Been Shifting Our Gear. He Will Work For Lemonade.

Jimmy Was Given His Release This P.M. Too. Aft. To Be A Trouble. Money &
Says He Was Stealing Bait Not From His Tent. There Was Much Conventional-
ized Loud Whaling From The Boys When He Left. However, They Were Laughing
Smaller By 10 Minutes Later. gave I Single 32 Traps (Leat-22, M.S.) K.M. (10.3 Steel)
Elena (1.00 4.62). But Luck Seems A Bit Better Today, 25. I Have 23 M.S. & 10 Pat. Have
Only 11 Of Their Steel Left. Overcast All P.M. But No Rain. Out Pacing For A Hike.
Call Another Road Canary's (Dime Eyed Shyne). Small Theta 1.6 M. G's Boys Laughing Traps & Stories.
Bottom Camp, Kim brought in a small rusty bandicoot from his trap line. J.J.

11 p.m. Camp near the lovely Mt. Brak. Our first specimen for Mano.

Linda and I caught a new species also new for Mt. The P.M. Kim, L.L. Julie

chose down a large tree near camp. Found another new Podomyys in small

hole. Quality not quantity at this camp. Geoff tells me that last night a

small bat ran down the fly screen pole to inspect the camp. New arboreal

caught a small lizard in Mt. Geoff made his way to mountain river about

an hour walk from camp. A pools of 50 ft. each. Good volume of water. A.M.

was beautiful. Sun that good. Could see Cape Nelson on its volcanic mountains

clinging on to its left. Overcast this P.M. Put clean now. 4:15 p.m. A leisurely

day for me. Good bath after lunch. We all have sweat, stinging by nites which we

wait on rotten logs. Legs, crotch and waist. We all scratch. Ticking tonight gave

e me a new mammal for camp — long-legged leptomys. Saw him hopping on ground (very

large compared to those at middle camp). Also heard squirrel twitching in woods nearby — had

another leptomys in steel meat set. No luck with shooting.

Friday 17 July 1953

Bottom Camp. It was Linda's turn to bring in a bandicoot. Large 3

no spiny hairs. Kim had 2. Rattris one tiny chewed by ants. After mea-

suring catch, Geoff and I left at 9:30 for the Athi river falls. About

14 hrs. hour walk down long ridge to east of camp. Last pitch covered with

stone. Tumble. River has cut wide deep gorge thru the escarpment. Hard

legs have made a lovely stage waterfall which falls into a rounded

rocky bowl which holds a pool of green water. About 180 ft. falls. (Water then

turns into series of cascades. A beautiful spot.) Geoff took pictures while

the boys chased butterflies — little powder blues. A sniffing out of gorge

made up skins in P.M. Linda and I went hiking over 1st part of river trail.

called a large grey & black gecko, which threw its tail when I picked it up here.

Flying foxes but did not see them. I tried to call "down to Binghun" at 11:30

to take a hike and gun to David. 4 to bring up more traps. Back about

2:15: David caught 2 possums. 2 foxes on way home. Both new for Mano.

Sat. 18 July 1953

Bottom Camp, Lisa's turn to bring in the prize — a giant rat caught in a

steel trap meat set. Hydromys-like tail but cannot pin down unless it is the


He and David some of locals have been working on our Binghun river camp.
BARREN FOR US TO MOVE INTO ON THE 29TH. 1 LARGE STEEL TRAP HAD
A "MAGNET " IN IT. THIS P.M. MAKES 15 SPECIES FOR CAMP. THEN BUCKED
UP THE TREES. DAVID DUG A HOLE EXCEPT A FORK. MOST P.M. +
SPRINGLING SED TO DAVID TONIGHT. THEN BROUGHT UP SOME Ripe BANANAS + GOOD
FISH MADE A FINE BURG + TONIGHT. DAVID PUT OUT 53 TRAPS
+ TOUET + LILY IN IT MORE AFIRE + SET SHOOTING FOR BIRDS + WATER.

APR

SYN 19 July 1952
165
BOTTOM CAMP A BEAUTIFUL MORNING WITH BIG CUMULUS PASSING OVER.
ARRIVED IN A NEW MOUSE (GENUS?) SOMETHING LIKE THE MYSTERY
MOUSE WITH 3 KAM. DAVID CAUGHT A GIANT RAT (PROBABLY Virginia) IN A
STEEL SNARE TONIGHT AT 5:15. TONIGHT I MADE ANOTHER EFFORT TO OBTAIN
THE BIRDS BUT HAVE SEEN IN TWO WOODS A FEW YDS FROM CAMP. THIS TIME I
WINGED ONE BUT TURNED OUT TO BE A HOPPO RIDING. JUST AT DINNER
I SHOT A SMALL BROAD-TAILED BAT OVER MY TENT. 2 NEW SPECIES FOR
THIS MOUNTAIN. WENT OUT HUNTING FOR A FEW MINUTES AFTER DINNER
FROM A "MAGNET " TRAPLING, BUT DID NOT COLLECT (MISSED HIM AS HE
BUSHIYERED AROUND A TREE). A FEW FEET FURTHER ON IT SHONE THE
EYES OF A GIANT RACCOON IN THE TRITRIP. MY 3RD NEW SPECIES IN 3 HRS.
MAMMALS: MAMMALS BUT ONE I DON'T KNOW YET. DAVID ARRESTED TO
WATER FALL 6 PM. SEEN A BEAR, HEARD NOTHING. 15 SPECIES IN ONE WEEK!
HAVE BEEN ON MAMMALS 2 MONTHS NOW. HAVE ONLY SCRATCHED SURFACE

JULY

172
MON 20 July 1952
164
BOTTOM CAMP. HAD 2 MAMMALS IN MY TRAP LIME THIS A.M. MOST UNUSUAL
MAMMAL: A KITTEH (ORIGINALLY TOLD HAD 7), A 2ND SMALL MOUSE WITH
1 LONG EARS AND LESS (STILL DON'T KNOW NAME). ANOTHER GIANT RAT ALSO
TRAPPED. THE 2ND COUNSELOR FROM BUNIA ARRIVED SOON AFTERNOON
WITH THE MAIL. 35 4 LETTERS, 16 4 19 FROM H. LETTERS FROM MOTHER, NOTE
+ B. WHITTLE
FRANK, ALSO FROM DR. TATE. ALL JUNE ISSUES OF TIME WORK WAS FINISHED
EARLY SOMNIOUS. READ + WRITE, DREW MOST OF 1 M. RACKING +
POOR BUT EIGHT ALL WELL AT HOME EXCEPT UNCLE BILL WHO IS NOT TOO
WELL BUT NOTHING SERIOUS. LAST POSTMARK JULY 6. Wrote to Kay, Mother, 
DR. TATE, BUSH, B.W. ALSO SENT LAST PAGE OF MAMMAL MIDDLE CAMP 1951.
GEORGE READ SOME MAMMAL COLOR SLIDE PREPARED IN AUSTRALIA. TOOK
STAYED UP UNTIL MIDNIGHT WRITING. A VERY HAPPY DAY. GEORGE HAD
WORM FROM MAMMAL, THAT DR. TATE WHO SAVES FROM LEUKEMIA, HAD
BEEN TAKEN TO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL. MAY MEAN END OF HIS MUSEUM WORK.
Bottom Camp. Happy 17th Birthday, Wark! I hope you are having a fine celebration at our Wentworth farm! Hopefully you are now a grown-up. Well, try to give you many more happy years! Almost blanked today. David had a young native cat in trap. Fernie in Len's boys brought in a live Bandicoot on pole (and lost its tail). Ken left for Biniguna in A.M. taking mail with him. He sent 2 carrier up to camp this P.M. with extra meat. They took my trip and box full of Middle Camp specimens down with them. Sunny A.M. but threatened rain all P.M. A leisurely day—shave & bath. Going bat shooting now. Hope to get my 100th specimen today. Ted a huge gecko but after hanging up for a few seconds in small tree, flew away. Collected a banded tail gecko for George—2 species now. Found a wild fig tree where Macroglossus was feeding. Kept feeding at them until all shells gone. The dark ended at 9:00. Will try again tomorrow night.

Wed. 22 July

Bottom Camp. I had a native cat in rat trap 12 P.M. also came in 400 specimens 4 months to the day after the start at Menpi. A very sunny A.M. took pictures of George at his work bench, one of trees & sky. Heavy overcast all P.M., moon out tonight. Moved my steel traps + 10 M.S. to location uphill. Spent 3 hours in the day streaming trying to collect small blossom bat. Finally collected but he was badly shot up. Back in camp I found a huge flying fox that David had collected. Have never seen such a monster. Now have 19 species for this camp. But only 33 specimens. Tim gave us a new dish. For lunch—seven fare baked flesh—Excellent. A troop of hornbills (7) flew over camp in A.M. Their wings make a tremendous whirring. Had a yellow-bellied shrike in trap. Shot another gecko tonight + collect 2 tiny frogs.

Thurs. 23 July

Bottom Camp. Had a banded cat in my new meat set 2 P.M. & 2 P.M. Pachydomys also came in—the latter found in small holes high in large trees. Flower-flower. Toy Nito 1 + David who had a giant bat hung up in big tree. The other, a good day for this camp. Both bats measured over 5 feet in wing spread (5'4" + 5'6")—large heads with small ears & big eyes. Toy for yellowish-brown—muzzle covered with greenish pollen. Took pictures of boys & myself holding bats to show span. Spell from hitting short heavy rain before supper. Geckes.
WRAPPING UP TODAY - A FEW OVER 200. FINE COLLECTION. THE BOYS HAVE BEEN COLLECTING EVERY NIGHT FOR A WEEK. SERENADED MY SLEEPER FOR A WHILE. READ AND HAD A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.

205 FRI 24 JULY 1952
Bottem Camp. Only 2 RATTUS. Made up the 2 giant bats, each taking 9 board by itself! Will have to carry pinned in coal trunk to Binignon camp. They went dry first Monday. Have rigged my wire trays over lamp in tent to dry specimens. Wrapped a few len collected at waterfall. Brought off from all day - general bad weather. Just saw clouds of tiny cloups drifting in tonight - moon trying to break thru. Tackled for 1/2 hour tonight - conditions poor. Shot another 3 mountain gecko. Kim picked a good apricot. Tlw for dinner - pine crust. Have been trying for the last hour to catch a frag just in back of tent. He sells every wet night. Noticed that he had a 7 minute call period. Just as the red-bellied 1930 that I first found at Tall Em Camp, calls from further in the humus, so does this one. Finally caught him - dull olive brown. Long red-bellied. New family collection.

206 SAT 25 JULY 159
Bottom Camp. Kim had a Uromys - this a Rat was our catch. All traps came in this A.M. & packed in 3 swags. Our mountain work is just about over. Had lamp going in tent all day to dry specimens. A dull rainy day. Let up after 4. & limped. Tall Em I had one more go at the long tongued blossom bats feeding on the small fruit of a fig. Tree in the dry. Fully just west of camp. Hard to collect as they darted up to the trailing fruit branches like awming birds. Eyes shine brightly. Brought home 2. Soft brown no tails.

207 SUN 26 JULY 158
Last day at Bottom Camp. Finished packing my collecting boxes. Made up 2 bats. Will have to carry several trays of pinned out specimens in my special collecting box. Have another quick box full of specimens. Came rain in A.M. but clearing in P.M. Saw small meteorite flash in sky about 4:20. Stars showing tonight. Finished packing skins & skulls.

Geoff & I are relaxing tonight, reading on our beds - luxury. Several carriers have arrived. They will leave early tomorrow with our tents & flies for Binignon Camp. Bama hula, Manehu!
Wed. May 13, 1953

Kwaï River to Binaguni. No rain.

Thurs. May 14, 1953.

Binaguni. Ken & George left for Mt. Manebouri at 7:05 P.M. with 8 carrier loads. Native broughtussen = pig

White g. Carriers lined up to give names to Ken.

Ken sent 20 men + 2 women + 2 councillors to make climb. Need at least 30 men. Some villagers did not send carriers. Police Tapp from Banabi arrived 7:00 P.M. with cousin for Ken. Conditions of people serious but may be able to clear. Temu op. Len advised Ken + I decided that he would probably decide to stay on mountain. We 컴퓨터

Bkadagabus. Ken + 20 men left from makati lens, fell George food. Skinnedussen.

Ken wrote note for runner to take to Ken tomorrow. Short thick snake (malum, ventral markings). No rain.

Fri. May 15, 1953

Binaguni. Runner with note. Ken left at 6:30 P.M. Carriers left about 9:30 P.M. Everything done. Loaded with poles, ex-

cept first 5 ft. native spec. camel. Lamp, clothes.

I of George's boxes also went up (#36). Ken + I have been sitting all day for further word on additional carriers.

Tm. + I walked about 1 mile W to big, clear, mountain creek with water gravel bed. No villages above. Chosen for Mangar Ridge. Took pictures.

Spent night trying to decide on plans for Frank. Frank gave us fresh fish (from creek) for dinner. Kept head in pickles. Bought yellow smoke with dinner. Shorts from village boy. Cleaned clothes. Still + boys did feet.

Fair all day. Write May. Sending 3 rolls of film.

Letter from Kay (Bermuda 3/5) Apr. 28. Read, last night in mail bag.
Bottom Camp to Biniguni Camp in the Gumam River. Up at 6 a.m.

Refilled smoke stick (Cigarette). FLEWS (sent special carriers of maize)

WATERED horses for main carrier body. LUCKY with neither

A SUNNY DAY/MORNING. Several women climbed up to camp to carry goods.

One had "day frcode" (section of bamboo) PIPE (2 in. in). They stuck smoke into

CARTRIDGE from cigarette, inserted in hole at end, the cigarette

Remains of stick were left in. Then they managed this smoke (there

May be a number of Baire's women) right not to show out/Thomas (sugar)

Let the flint stick (20) Trial early dry. The 3 counselors have party brought

up the rear. Reached Gumam River (29 1/2) at foot of Mahnu Range. Escorted

Next night first trial then goes on. Along foot of Range past the

Landing of Giva Range which brings the south-west section of Mahnu

Range then came to the Range arrived in our next camp about 8 a.m. It

is located on Biniguni, General Range and where Terrace from the eyes.

Another hill. Watering was done, others a steeply incline Mt. Storm 1

Muddy at some places. Good, and drinking water. Am 3 tents in work

Right in the line across Gumam River. Cook fire on next morning. Springs of

Boys' fly is in locale of Gumam inside forest edge. Australian pine "grow

in a good camp. Pines in hills" over sand. Sandy, very ground. Ken

picked a fine site & prepared a camp. Only danger is flash flood. But it

Would have to be a big one to put camp in trouble. Natives have cleared

Gumam Sticks in the rain forest. Across river. Sorted my gear out and

Inspected my mosquito net (haven't used this since last May). Took

TABSIDE of the morning fogging of Negritos for men had heated stones

Over fire. Put these on Banana leaves, poured water over. Stones + when

Steaming. Covered whole area with more leaves. Carriers paid off after

Kuan very cheerful. But one day from Biniguni brought Geoff a gift

Snake was in a Gourd. G. had quite a time getting him

out that to the formalin. Can't bust. I shot my first Snail. Yet. For this

Camp. About 2 hours. Going to make lent, yams, Pumpkin (squash), Tara, Da-

manas, etc. Sambozoward. Ken told us there was an eclipse of the moon last

night. I slept eight through. Told Biniguni natives were still using cannon

Ken & Binning in with me. He leaves for Briana next Monday with

Our first out shipment of specimens. Must gear up. The end of the

Mainland phase of the trip is coming close. Boys had a wonderful time

Batting in river as dam. We can see the northern, Gorupa, peaks to

The west down the Sandfly. It is good to relax again. Weather is still

Unsettled. Alternate overcast, sun, drizzle.
TUES. 28 July 1953 156

GWARU RIVER CAMP. Today marks our 6th month away from home. Another 4 months we will be packing for the trip home. We gave all our boys a holiday today. They fixed their camp, washed clothes, blankets, etc., themselves in river. We are doing our own cooking. Made up my bed. Ken, Geoff & I walked to Biniguni to visit the rest house. A check on supplies & specimens. All seem in good shape. Brought back my pillow, blanket & more tow to camp. Bus about a mile out of camp thru rain forest & gardens. Spent a quiet afternoon airing clothes, reading, shaving, writing. Will not put traps out until tomorrow and no hacking. Kim came home about 5.30 P.M., which one of the village boys had given him to deliver to me. A new species for the expedition - a first, a tail only 61 mm. T.I. measured a skinned before dinner. Ken cooked a delicious dinner of pigeon & vegetables in his pressure cooker. RELAXING AGAIN TO NIGHT. Village men leaving for a week's hunt tomorrow. Ken has asked them to bring back what mammals they can save for me. I don't know what to expect. Ken mentioned casually to me that one of the men had shown him a parrot skull. We stopped at his house - surely enough. He had a parrot skull with long beak intact! People of any region are always so casual about their native animals even though to us it may be extremely rare. Same in Australia. And it is hard to make even Ken realize their importance - to me.

WED. 29 July 1953 155

River Camp. Stayed in bed until 6:30. Cool sleeping & the bush in the river lulls you to sleep. Ken & I talked until midnight about New Guinea & its people. Then we went to cook, fly to make hot buns. Poor Len & I usually awake at 3 a.m., so I rarely go back to sleep again. Every little noise seems to disturb him. G. is a sniffer so it is a real test that we have our own tents again. Ken & I sleep like logs. Made up my bed after breakfast & then Ken, Len & I walked into Biniguni. I packed study skins into knockdown boxes. Also packed some traps. Heavy clothes & cold gear in black boxes. To go down on first carry to Biauwa. Ken & I came back for late lunch of delicious vegetables.

We set our first traps this P.M. - 36 rat, 20 Mus. Sp. Will tack to night for first time. 6 P.M. a time for rat shooting.

THURS. 30 July 1953 154

River Camp. Did not hit any rats last night. Trapping produced nothing (1½ hrs. heard flying foxes. Saw small rats on trail. Trapping gave us 4 species of Rattus & 2 Melomys - 7 specimens. Back to the old routine again. We
HAVE A FINISH SKINNING TABLE PAT PATA WITH A SINGLE FLATTED LOG AS A SEAT FOR THE 4 OF US. KEN JACKED A DIAJONIN. ALSO BROUGHT IN 2 GECKOS. DAY OVERCAST WITH LIGHT DRIZZLE THIS P.M. NO STARS TONIGHT. WE ARE LIVING HIGH AGAIN: HAD PRESSURE COOKED PIGEON TWICE TODAY AS WELL AS ANTI-FINE ASSORTMENT OF VEGETABLES, ALSO APRICOTS MIXED FOR DESERT. THESE DRIED APRICOTS ARE VERY GOOD EBTH

DRIY OR COCKED (TASTE LIKE JAM). NEXT HAKING TONIGHT & SHOT 1 UNNY.

(GIANT RAT) THAT WAS WANDERING ABOUT ON GROUND; 2ND, BUT COULD NOT FIND HIM. FOUND 1 GECKO FOR GEORGE. KEN HAS ARRANGED FOR RUNNER TO GO OUT WITH MAIL ON SATURDAY. PRACTICALLY ALL THE VILLAGE IS OUT ON HUNTING TRIP GETTING FOOD FOR A BIG FEAST 2 WEEKS FROM NOW. IT IS DOUBTIF IF WE STAY HERE MORE THAN 2 OR 4 WEEKS. WE MAY MOVE 2/4 WAY DOWN TO THE COAST FOR REMAINING TIME. THIS IS MOSTLY 2ND GROWTH RAIN FOREST & RATHER POOR PICKING FOR RED VIRGIN R.F. NORTH AT BINIGNUN. WE ARE WRITING TO CHARTER A BOAT TO PICK US UP AT BIAWA (3RD WEEK SEPT)

212.  (183)

FRIDAY 31 JULY 1953

RIVER CAMP. JACKED LAST NIGHT GAVE ME 2 GIANT RATS (URemy). I WAS A SHORT DISTANCE OUT ON THE BINIGNUN TRACK & THE RATS WERE ONLY A FEW FEET OFF THE TRAIL HUNTING ON THE GROUND. DAVID SHOT AT A WHITE CUSCUS BUT IT KEPT ON GOING UP THE TREE. CLIMBED FOR IT THIS A.M. & FOUND IT IN THE SAME TREE. WEIGHED 13 1/2 LBS.  ALSO HAD A LARGE POUCH YOUNG. DID NOT GO OUT TONIGHT. WROTE LETTERS TO K. RICHMOND, ALCOIDE & THE OTHERS IN TREP. CORPS. & UNCLE WILL. SENIING OUT MY LOST MANEUVE FILM.

210.

SAT. 1 AUG. 1953

RIVER CAMP. DAVID JACKED A NEW CUSCUS LAST NIGHT - GRAYISH BROWN WITH A DORSAL STRIPE. A VERY TINY POUCH YOUNG. MUCH EXCITEMENT THIS A.M. WOMEN FROM VARIOUS VILLAGES SHOWED UP WITH ALL KINDS OF VEGETABLES. KEN DID THE REYING - WHEIGHED EACH STRING BAG FULL & PAID OFF WITH SALT & NEWS PAPER WHICH THEY USE FOR ROLLING CIGARETTES. VERY PHOTOGGIC CROWD. TOOK AT LEAST 1 ROLL OF FILM. LIGHT NOT TOO GOOD. VERY HAPPY PEOPLE & IT CERTAINLY HELPS TO HAVE A MAN WHO CAN TALK THEIR LANGUAGE. SOME OF THE WOMEN WERE CARRYING YOUNG BABIES IN THEIR STRING BAGS. MY BOYS WERE NOT TOO SHARP ON SKINNING TODAY - HAD BEEN CHEWING BETEL NUT WHICH IS AVAILABLE IN GOOD SUPPLY HERE IN BINIGNUN. TONIGHT HAD AFTER DINNER TUNA & A FRIEND SHOWED UP HUGGING A HUGE PYTHON THEY HAD CAUGHT. SEVERAL HOURS WALK FROM CAMP. KEN FINALLY PAID OFF WITH 5 SHILLINGS, PACKAGE OF 10 RAZOR BLADES, 24 BOXES OF MATCHES & AN EMPTY TOBACCO TIN! WE ALSO HOPED THAT THEY WOULD BRING IN SOME MAMMALS. THE HEAD & TAIL OF THE SNAKE WERE LASHED TO A POLE. GEOFF GOT HIS SPECIMEN INTO A CUG & THIS IS NOW IN THE RIVER WEIGHTED DOWN WITH STONES. RAINTONIGHT DID NOT GO OUT. DAVID OUT EARLY SHOT A FLYING SQUIRREL.
NEEDS THE STIRRING THAT A WHITE MAN'S PRESENCE YIELDS. A PARTY OF THAT SIZE EXPECTS THE NEW REALITY. EARLY
HOP THERE HAS NOT BEEN A SOUL WITH THE TROOPS. NATIVE FOOD - THEY GO BOTH TODAY. BE SURE TO ASK A WOMAN STAIRLACE
BELONGS TO MAN. IT WAS ONE I'M TOLD OUT HERE. NINE
RECURS NOW WITH THIS NOTE. 4 4 0 0 0 0.7 E 8.
NO SIMPLER IS IT NOT TO SEND THE MESSAGE. THE MAN SAYS
6 A.M. MAY 16

ING TO INDIANS. HOUSE AT 700 M. NO WATER BETWEEN. THESE TENTS
EARLY. LAST NIGHT WE CAMPED A BIT ABOVE YARD. EARLY
EXPECTED TO SINGLE TENTS. NO SIGN OF MAIN TRAILER
BEING INTERRED WITH DOUBLE BAGS, Consequently long
REQUESTING YOUR SENDING ON SUFFICE UP FIRST OR
A CALL FOR MY IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE SO WE CAN
REUNION OVERLOOK 9 OR 10 A.M. THIS MORNING.
CAMP AT 5000.10.MAY 15, 1934 (DUSK)

LETTER FROM L.T. TO R. O. SULLIVAN
Sun. 2 Aug. 1953

River Camp. L innovation was the only successful trapper - 2 rats. Ken brought the Python --- quite dead from his night in the winter. We all had figured it's length. My smallest digital calipers (13.6" wide, 29.1" long). S. & S. George Smith / after mining / pictures. I also went thru intestino tract looking for mummified remains - found 2 to 3 nails / with animal bone. Very likely a small wallaby. After lunch Ken & Denis probed or shot Bimbinga to spend the night. Wait for carriers. Hope he has good weather. Arranged for the move to Biabwa George taking boys down river to a big pool to try to net fish. Only 1 or 2 small fish. This is where the natives spear fish. Fish, then slit up & packaging for dinners. Him fixed them in the pepper cooker. This a.m. while washing by the river I had an unpleasant surprise. Since my boat suspision problem - I did a slow motion roll into a pool of water. So I took a morning bath. Faking tonight with Tollei. Saw one flying fox & shot a rat. Ratties attack at my feet. Collecters 2 brood for George. Isilele saw mousy cuscus but we could not find it. No luck with rat shooting before dinner. Saw with Lundy tonight - a high flyer.

Mon. Aug. 3, 1953

River Camp. Another poor trap night - only 2 rats. A beautiful morning for Ken. Ken botanized around Bimbinga. This p.m. looked in past house. Only 2 unimportant double loads remained. About 25 carriers must have showed up. All my Manara skins are in this carry. Light rain this p.m. But this is probably real. Ken should get all his horses to Mrs. Buri Bay & then by canoes to Biabwa without waiting. Walked down stream this p.m. The South Bank is a steep hillside cleared in many places for gardens / deep gulies run down to the river. A big scrub covers the hill above the garden patches. Kim & Laki. Isilele. On cutting tasking trails in this scrub. Met an old man coming out river trail with string bag full of cestri nuts. I he sold them to us for 2 or 3 boxes of matches. This is the staple eating nut in this part of New Guinea. About 2 inches long x 1/2 in wide. Excellent white meat. Very good roasted. Kim & Laki went arching - shot at a cuscus but it disappeared in the leaves. Wrote Mrs. Stockinboth & John Pallister.

Tues. Aug. 4

River Camp. This morning (about 3:15) Len woke me up & said a dog was howling.
River Camp, Only 3 Rattus in traps. Several visitors wandered into camp from Budumala soon after breakfast. They had heard that we were buying spears, but they were too late - Geoff has already bought 3 for his Brooklyn apartment. At the end of 1 spear tangled a Melomys which I bought for a box of matches. Another man had a lovely frilled lizard which Geoff bought for matches + a razor blade + also 2 coconuts for a piece of newspaper. 2 carriers came in from Quagira with tack cloths + a Pigeon (which we kalked for dinner) + a note saying that all of our specimens had reached the Broome rest house safely. He is going to the village of Maneau to-day, the river will be too high to-morrow A.M. I came out to camp about mid-day. I. S. I. Selle walked into camp this P.M. with 3 steel traps on a pole + a big Goana (heard) with a foot in each trap. The Mammal Dept. is doing its best for the Herb Dept. Kim came back with a "Native Cat" from his steels - our first for the locality! (16 species now). I. S. Selle + I tracked for (Bininagi Trail) 2 hours tonight - a Melomys in a Pandanus was our only specimen. Although we heard many stirrings in the leaves. A beautiful day and a starry night. We had scrub hen scrambled eggs for breakfast, 2 eggs made a big plate + we had egg sandwiches for morning tea. Pork pie for lunch. Gorupu was clear at various times today + the outline was sharp against the lemon evening sky.
River Camp. This started out as a normal day but ended with a bang.

We skinned 3 maize ears and a few trap specimens in the morning. Just after lunch we set off for the village, which is about 10 miles away. We found a large number of small, semi-aquatic animals living in the limestone caves. These animals, known as hipposideros, are small bats that are native to the area.

When we arrived, we were greeted by the village chief, who welcomed us with open arms. He gave us some food and drinks, and we enjoyed each other's company. It was a warm and friendly atmosphere.

The chief then showed us around the village, which is made up of traditional stilt houses made of bamboo and thatch. The village is located on the banks of the river, and we were able to see some of the beautiful scenery. We took some photos and videos to capture the moment.

As we were leaving, the chief presented us with a gift, which was a small wooden box containing some local honey. It was a sweet gesture, and we were very grateful for the kindness.

We spent the rest of the day at the river, where we had a small picnic and enjoyed the beautiful weather. It was a wonderful day, and we were very pleased to have had the opportunity to see the village and its inhabitants.

Kay and I spent the evening writing some letters and addressing some of the other specimens. We were both very tired, but we were happy to have had such a positive experience.

Friday Aug 7, 1953

River Camp. Nothing in traps, but we had a few bats and rats to make up from yesterday. Our mail runner arrived back from Banjara, also with mail (from Kay & David - a long letter). Finished sking late in P.M. & after dinner I spent several hours cataloging. Left late, we all went out looking but home early with Luck. David & Kim out also, but Ken suspected them of visiting in village & not working. So we waited up for them. Finally home about 11:30, but would admit nothing. The other boys knew where they had gone but insisted that they were working across the river.

Ken was just about to send all the boys out in the forest to search for them when Kim & David showed up. From the direction of Banjara, they were trying to guard against any stirrings in the villages (women) which might upset our carrier agreements. I also sent time & chocolate bars.
River Camp, Sat. Aug. 8, 1953

I only 3 Rattus in camp, but 2 small boys showed up with a fly-box (Dobsonia). Finished these up & spent the rest of the day unpacking, wrapping & packing another big box full of skins to despatch down to Barawa next Monday. Ken & David left late in the afternoon on a water rat hunt that the chief had organized for my benefit (i.e. for salt). They may spend the night. I don't know how far away the streams are but they are west of here & run into the main river. Details to follow. My gang cleaned up just before dinner with a mere Pogonomyce. I am going to bed early tonight. I smell a busy day tomorrow. Bought some matches for a box of matches - 6 sets we have had yet. Kim made a fine apricot pie tonight. I can't imagine to what genus these water rats belong - they are said to be small.

221

Sun. Aug. 9, 1953

River Camp. Ken arrived back in camp this a.m. after a fruitless water rat hunt. However, they did bring in a Taractopsila and a tiny sheath-tailed bat. This plus the Pogonomyce & 2 Rattus in traps gave me 12 specimens for the day. After lunch, Lukim came over from Biniguni with a wallaby skull - a new one for the collection. We hope to get a complete one before we leave the area. Paid for it with salt. Ken went over Lake names of local animals with Lukim. A python & a carpet snake were brought in by village boys for Geoff & just before dinner our boys found a small snake at the river edge which he grabbed with a forceps. Heavy showers for short time this P.M. - our first in some time. The village hunters are back from their pig hunt & plan their feast later this week. Ken may not be able to get carriers for tomorrow. A government patrol officer, Peter O'Sullivan, may arrive in Biniguni tomorrow. One of the Cape Vogel missionaries may come thru on tour later in week. They need carriers also. It may mess our moving schedule up. We would like to break camp here next Friday. Total specimens for last week 260. Total for first 20 weeks 1382.

222

Mon. Aug. 10

River Camp. Poor trapping - 2 Rattus & 1 Melomys. N. Carriers showed up. Ken & I went into Biniguni at 1 P.M. Boys brought box 39 full of...
STUDY, SNUGGLED OVER TO REST HOUSE. FINISHED PACKING, SKULL BOX # 28. BOTH LIGHT SO THEY WERE WASHED TOGETHER TO MAKE A DOUBLE LOAD. COUNSELOR HEADED MEN CAME OVER TO TALK TO KEN. THEY HAVE AGREED TO MAKE THE SNORTY TO MOI BIRD RING TOMORROW. MY BOYS CAME BACK TO CAMP. I CAME THEM BACK TO STEELS I. I STRATEGIZED, DAVID WALKED OVER TO MAIN RIVER WITH THEM TO SHOW SPOTS FOR WATER RAT TRAPPING. A LONG NIGHT, BUT A FEW NIGHTS TRAPPING SHOULD TURN UP SOMETHING OF INTEREST. ALSO SENT OVER 10 MUSKUNG SPECIALS FOR KEN TO USE IN REST HOUSE. MY GIRL BROUGHT IN 11 MORE POGONYMS THIS AFTERNOON — COST 8 BOXES OF MATCHES IN SOME NEWSPAPER. ANOTHER NATIVE BROUGHT GEOF A LARGE PYTHON. OUT FISHING TONIGHT FOR AN HOUR. SHOT AT TWO SMALL TARS IN TRAIL. HEARD FLYING RABBITS. HEAVY SHOWER IN LATE PM. HAD A GOOD BATH IN RIVER — WITH SMALL BOYS LOOKING ON WITH GREAT INTEREST.

2721

TUES. AUG. 11, 1953

142

RIVER CAMP. MY BOYS WERE OFF AT 7:30 TO RUN THEIR TRAPS ON THE MAIN RIVER. DID NOT GET BACK TO CAMP UNTIL 10:30. NOTHING IMPORTANT. 2 SPECIES OF RATTUS THAT WE HAVE TAKEN HERE NEAR CAMP. WHILE WE WERE AT LUNCH A NATIVE FROM BUDUMARAME CAME IN WITH 4 HIPPOSIDEROS WHICH I BOUGHT WITH FIVE MATCHES. THEY ARE SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN THE ONES FROM MANEBA — HAVE LONGER TAIL BUT MOST MEASUREMENTS ARE THE SAME. A NARROW, LIGHT COLORED EVENING, NOT CONSPICUOUS. I ALSO RECEIVED 2 POGONYMS THAT THE VILLAGE BOYS FOUND IN A TREE. HAD RAPIDLY MORE OF THE SAME ARRIVED LATE IN PM. ALL CARRIERS COME IN EARLY TO TAKE EXCESS FOOD DOWN TO THE NEAREST VILLAGE. ON THE TRAIL TO THE COAST, KEN'S CARRIERS HAD A DAY OFF FOR THE TRIP TO THE COAST. GEAR SHOULD BE IN REST HOUSE IN BALAWA BY NOW (8 P.M.). THERE IS ONLY A SIDE PER DAY ON THIS COAST. IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HIGH BOUND ENP. CHANCES CAN ONLY COME UP THE CREEK AT HIGH WATER TO THE HANDBAG. MADE UP SKINS TODAY AND FINISHED JUST AT PUSH MID. REFRESHING BATH IN THE RIVER, WHICH GAVE ME A GOOD APPETITE FOR PIGEON SOUP, FLECKED, SARGENT MEAT (BOUGHT FROM NATIVE WHO SAME UP FROM COAST). WE BOILED THE GRASS. GEOF WAS GOING TO PICKLE IT AS SPECIMENS BUT REFUSING. PIGEON STEW, YAM, SQUASH, SWEET POTATO, SWEETENED APRICOT. A DELEGATION OF MALISA TRIBE MEN AND WOMEN ARRIVED IN BINGURU TODAY FROM THE CAPE NELSON AREA. WOMEN WEAR CLOTH SKIRTS INSTEAD OF GRASS SKIRTS. MANY HAVE CROPPED HAIR OR SHAVED HEADS. THEY MAKE TAPA CLOTH FOR TRADE. DANCE TONIGHT.
**River Camp.** Boys off early to bring in traps from the Maiv. Only 2 Rattus. Had a Melomys in my trap line. 2 of my gang thought in 8 more Pogonomyss. George was down river with his boys netting fish in A.M. Had a good catch. Saved a few for specimens, but he turned over most of them to cook for lunch. They were #1. Ken & David arrived back in camp at 2:30 P.M. from Pariawa. All gear down at rest house safely. Shot 2 large pigeons on way home. Cooked in pressure cooker for dinner. Delicious white meat. Niko, Levi, I, Isilele, and I went down the Gwariu stream bed to set 30 water traps for water Rats. There are a number of cascades that tumble down the escarpment and end in deep pools before flowing into the Gwariu or Maiv. The cascade of Biniguni Creek at old Biniguni Village is a lovely run of water. We set our traps along the quiet pools & reaches. Had my Sneakers on & did a good deal of wading. Saw function of M.F. & followed a flower flower trail home. About a 2 hour taunt. Home for a good swim in river. The rumy good fellowship flowed more freely tonight. The dinner was excellent. No backing & home too late to bait traps. Heavy shower in P.M. Clear tonight.

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**River Camp.** Our last day at this camp & a busy one. Boys only had 1 Trattus in river traps - no water Rats. Also 2 Rattus in local traps. Wrapped all dry skins and packed 3 boards with pinned out material. Gauze wrapped all formalin specimens. Repacked all my black boxes & boys lashed them to poles for carriers. Late in P.M. a few boys came in with 15 Pogonomyss, 10 small bats & a live striped Possum (Dactylonax) which I was glad to have - only my 3rd for the trip. I will skin him tomorrow at our new camp. I had to break out the formalin again to save the rats & bats. This should run my total close to 1400 now. Should have at least 1500 before we leave for Samarai. Once we leave tomorrow we will really be saying goodbye to Maneau. A heavy rain is coming down & Ken is worrying about whether or not carriers will show up tomorrow or not. They have never failed him yet. He has really done a remarkable job for us. His command of the language, his understanding & liking for the natives have made our road easy. We also have plenty of tobacco + salt! and newspaper. Good night, darling. I'll be closer to home tomorrow!
GWARWA Camp to Peria River Camp 7:30— Biniguni at 7:30. Rogman 8:00, Opigiwar 8:10; Peria River 9:10. Up early. Fly's and tent down. Folded and packed. Carriers started coming in early. More than enough. We had done it once. Again Kim and I started off ahead. Partly cloudy but the humidity was high. So the walking was hot. Last close views of the savannah shrouded in clouds. Hen + George arrived about 6:00. Minutes later + Len about 10. This carry was a picnic for the men. + they arrived at the river singing. Pay off lasted about an hour. + I took what pictures I could at 3:30 + 4:30. I sniped + made up the striped possum that I bought last night. Boys also caught 7 Melomys while clearing camp site in the farm between the 2 rivers. When we came thru here in May, the water was running fast. Deep, but now there is only a trickle in the Peria. Water is filtered thru sand. It is good drinking water. Hen + Boys rigged camp most of day. Hen + I fire camped off on the west bank where we get the morning sun + afternoon shade. Police runner came in with mail + letters from mother, Don Carter, Don Vernon. + wrote to mother + Kay. Runner staying over night. No fishing or traps tonight. Women brought in loads of vegetables after dark. From Opigiwar: Wonderful taro + pumpkin tops for greens. Also some beautiful sugar cane (ied). Geoff + I found a good swimming hole + had a good soak + soat.
Peria River Camp. Today we saw our first white man in months. The missionary, Father Rogers, from Mulawa on the north side of the Cape York Peninsula. He came down to Balina by sailing outrigger. He + I flipped the track on way to Opigiwar. We had met him for a few minutes back in Menapal when he + Father Shifron came back from a patrol. Stayed for morning tea + then pushed on from Sydney. A very likeable man— young, AID up the Pogonomy. Fixing camp most of day. Boys built a good fire, put up work bench for the man-made department. We put out 10 traps each. Goo cat flight over river bed. Shot 1 tiny shrewtail before dinner (same as the ones from Biniguni area). Tacked with Isalie, and shot a harpysides on trout. Collected a striped possum on way home. David son B. Wallace.
AND A BANDICOOT BUT NO LUCK. HOWEVER, HE DID FIND A SMALL BAT
CAUGHT IN A BUSH. I DO NOT KNOW THE GENUS BUT IT HAS GOLDEN HAIR
DOWN THE ARMS AND LEGS. FOR ERIS IS TRICOLORATED LIKE A PIPISTRELUS. NEW
FOR THE COLLECTION. READ AND TALKED LATE WITH KEN.

228

Sun. Aug. 16, 1953

PERIA RIVER. A QUIET DAY IN CAMP - IT REALLY SEEMED LIKE SUNDAY.
MADE UP SPECIMENS. ISSUED MORE TRAPS TO BOYS: D. H. M. H. E.
T. W. A. K. 5. LUMA 5, MYSELF 20. STILL HAVE A FEW MUSEUM SPECIMENS
LEFT. FATHER ROGERS SENT A NOTE SAYING HE WOULD TAKE OUT ANY
MAIL WE HAD READY TO MORROW. WROTE A VERSE TO THANK HER FOR SHIP
BOARD PICTURES (THE GARTH, BATH RD., CHIPPEHAM, WILTS., ENGLAND). EVERY
ONE BUT COLLECTING TODAY. KEN SHOT 2 PIGEONS FOR DINNER TONIGHT.
COOKED IN PRESSURE COOKER - GOOD. SHOT 2 HIPPOSIDERS OVER
RIVER JUNCTION. KEN A SHEATH TAIL. HEARD ONLY FLYING FOXES WHILE
OUT HUNTING. THIS IS A WONDERFUL SPOT FOR FROGS. DAVID SHOT AT
A PIG.

229

Mon. Aug. 17

PERIA RIVER. ONLY 2 RATTUS 1. MELANOMYS IN TRAPS. BOTH HIPPOSIDERS
HAD LARGE SINGLE EMBRYOS. FATHER ROGERS AT OUR INVITATION HAD LUNCH WITH US ON WAY BACK TO COAST. VERY PLEASANT
MEAL. HE LEFT A FEW LIMES AND EGGS WITH US THAT HAD BEEN GIVEN
to HEMATITE AT THE NATIVE MISSION STATION. MADE UP SKINS. QUIT A BIT
OF THUNDER IN P.M. BUT NO RAIN HERE. KEN IS COOKING UP A PLAN TO
COMBINE A CARRY TO BARIWA + A VISIT TO TRIPIC TO VISIT THE CAVES.
HE WILL SAMPLE THE BATS THERE & LOOK OVER THE SMALL BOAT EN-
CHARGED IN PREPARATION FOR OUR PLANNED TRIP THERE ON WAY BACK
TO SAMARAI. COOL BREEZE THIS P.M. BUT OVERCAST. SHOT 2 MORE
HIPPOSIDERS AT JUSH. JUMPED A BANDICOOT WHILE HUNTING BUT IT
GOT AWAY FROM ME IN UNDER BRUSH. ISLETT & I WERE FOLLOWING
(TO BODUMANI).
THE OLD GOVERNMENT TRACK WHICH COMES INTO THE RIVER JUNCTION
JUST AT OUR CAMP SITE IN THE FORK.

230

Tues. Aug. 18

PERIA RIVER. OUR FIRST WATER RAT OF THE TRIP SNIFED AT THE
BAIT ON 3 OF MY TRAPS. WAS CLUNKED ON THE HEAD & ROLLED OVER.
EXPIRED BY THE SIDE OF THE TRAP. ABOUT 30 YDS. FROM WATER, DAVID
HAD A SMALL BANDICOOT - OUR FIRST FOR THIS CAMP. GEEFO'S BOYS.
Brought in about 200 frogs last night. He has been labeling them morning. Lasuma was washing clothes in a river pool near camp when a cassowary walked across the stream 100 yards away. He was so excited and amazed at the sight that he could only wave his arms up and down. Ken rushed around trying to find his gun & ammo — too late, fortunately. Ken says the river is excellent. Wrapped study stanza in P.M. Another box full for Ken to take to Balawa tomorrow. The government patrol officer, Peter O'Sullivan, his native police & carriers came down the track from Bomana at noon. He stayed for lunch and for a long talk. Left at about middle of P.M. for Kwagina. He had carried in a bottle of rum for L.G., & a bottle of ginger beer for me. Had a slight stomach upset. Went to bed early. Didoquin fixed me up quickly. We had fried eggs for breakfast. Opaigwari boys brought in 2 more possums.

231

Wed Aug 14, 1953

Piper River. New possums in traps. Many 12 species for the camp. Made 20 possums. Carriers arrived at 9 P.M. Waited until after dinner. Carriers were off at 9 that far to Pura Landing. Peter & Ken pooled to canoe over together. 4 striped possums were brought in. Today 4 paid boxes matches, 1 razor blade & 2 sheets of newspaper. Later some boys brought in 6 possums in a big ground. Took Nita fishing with me tonight. Flying foxes up river but did not get any. Saw a small rat swimming in pool. Went up bank & among tree roots. May be something very good. Will trap for it tomorrow. A little further on we saw what we thought was 1 wallaby crossing the river bed. Turned out to be a large bandicoot — 3 feet long. Weighed 10 lb. Pounds. We could hardly believe our eyes. Feeling fine today. Nothing caught feel in front of camp & roasting it in corals of his fire.

232

Thurs, Aug 15

Piper River. Only 1 rat in traps. Heavy rain from midnight to 9 A.M. Spring traps were spoiled. But for something no doubt the boys shot out the bandicoot flat. Did a good job. Awari people came down with vegetables which Geoff bought with salt & paper. They also brought a 10' python which his boys shot. One man brought me a striped possum — made a good dinner now. Gave the bandicoot body to the Awari women who washed it in the river & cooked it. Palm Boys.
In P.M. some young boys showed up from Oragwari with another
giant bandicoot (this however weighed only 6 lbs.) & a small brah-
nosed bat. Finished them all before dinner. Set traps around
pool where I saw water bat. They found bandicoot in a farm
under a fallen tree. Filling tonight yielded nothing. Hard
flying foxes but did not have shot. Home at 9 p.m. 7 p.m.
Reading one of George's detective stories for a change.

233

Friday, Aug. 21, 1953

Peria River. Nothing in traps. However, I had a live poecophryne. for
the day before (also 3 more but they gnawed a hole in the black
box & departed during the night). Saw 2 Kwagira people
come in with vegetables. About noon. Run on salt & paper. Some
fine bananas & taro. About 3 p.m. I took my boys down the
Kwagira trail to the first river crossing. Fine rain of water.
Cut over to the Peria - about 200 yds. away - also running here
butf not at camp. Flood plain area. High grass. Waded up river
to camp. Here I found a lot of boys from Oragwari with speci-
mens for me - poecophryne, beetles, a lot of small brah-nosed
bats. More matches & paper & everyone was happy. Filling toto
night & did son Dansona. Saw all small bandicoot that a lift tree snake
(new for collection). Police runner came in while I was at the
camp. Smith will be at Baimwa to pick us up on Sept. 10. Mail
out a bundle of newspapers. Runner saw Ken at Pem on way
to Tapiro. Ruled notebook. Have almost 1500 specimens now.

234

Sat. Aug. 22, 1953

Peria River. The end of our 22nd week in the field. We began our
work just 5 months ago today at Menapi. Almost 1500 specimens
in the book. We had 2 rats & a dark Melomys in traps. Made
14 skins up today. Here at me at my work bench all day. Poor George
published this a.m. & did not get back to camp until 1:20. He was
a walks suffering all that collecting time he could put in on 11
intensive collecting near camp. New insects walk across my skimmer
board every day. Lovely moon tonight. Lix Lix found a small cus-
cus on river bank after dinner. It ran up a tree & I sleuth after
it. Then it fell out of tree & scampared off thru the forest with
Nimt, Billy, II. & I. in chase. They caught it. Lix Lix is as proud as
punch. This is his first capturing specimen. Ken should be at Tapiro
today. What bats will he find? I & L.L. have new trap lines.
PERLA RIVER. ONLY 1. ROTTUS IN NEW LINES. TOMMY HAD 3 IN DAVI'S LINE. THESE PLAYS AMUSING. PERMANENT SMALL BAND OR ORCHESTRA WHICH WERE PURCHASED YESTERDAY. JAM session was on. THE CIRCUS GAVE ME A BUSY DAY. WHILE HAMMERING TONIGHT I DISCOVERED (almost) RABBIT JUMPED INTO THE SAGS OF A HILLY. THEN I TOOK A PEERED OUT OF A SENDING THEN DISAPPEAR. THEY ARE VERY EXTRE veritable ACORP. THE STRONG CIRCUS NOISE. MANY FUNKS FEEDING IN TREE TOPS. DID NOT SEE ANY. THE AM Was MILD. SUNDAY- A PERFECT DAY FOR PICTURE TAKING. A FEW ON THE CAMP, THE WATER COURSE, VEGETATION AGAINST THE BLUE SKY. AND SOME OF NATIVE FROM 33 INGUNA VISITING. ONE BOY HAD HIS HA IR ALL REDD£D UP. PROBABLY DECORATION FOR THE DANCE AT LEAST. THEY HAD PLANNED TO HAVE AFTER GETTING US IN THE GOVERNMENT PATROL, MIND THE SAME NATIVE WHO SOLD ME THE BANDOLY YESTERDAY, ALSO BROUGHT IN A YOUNG CASEY BONE HE HAD CAUGHT. WHEN HE FOUND OUT THAT I DID NOT WANT IT, HE SOLD IT TO THE BOYS FOR A TIN BOTTLED MEAT. THE BOYS CERTAINLY HAD THE BEST OF THAT BARGAIN. I KNEW THEY WOULD POCKET THE MAMMAL. HE RETURNED "TO IT AT DINNER TIME. ABSOLUTELY TALENTED! MOON WILL BE FULL BY MORNING. FOGS & NIGHT CARTS IN DULL CHORDS.

PERLA RIVER. FULL MOON- A SOFT- AIRED BEAUTIFUL NIGHT. I WALKED DOWN TRAIL TO THE NEXT RIVER CROSSING. ARRIVING THERE ABOUT 5:45 P.M. WE WAITED UNTIL 6:15 BEFORE WE STARTED HOME. HAMMERING ALONG THE WAY. SHOT BUNNY IN THE RIVER BUT WE COULD NOT FIND IT IN THE GRASS. SAW ONE OF THE GIANT-FROGS. HEARD SEVERAL NIGHT BIRDS GIVING THEIR CALLS. (DUCHESS & DEBELLA) ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT. THEY ARE WELL ADAPTED TO NOVEMBER NIGHT PLACES. KIM & LOSIMA WEREWRITING (2:15) WITH MY HOT DINNER. 4 KINDS OF FISH A RIBBLED. PRAWN - GREG + MY BOYS NEEDED THEM THIS AFTERNOON. DELICIOUS. SOFT, OF COURSE... THEN RICE & CHUTNEY, SWEET POTATOES + TWO MINGLED OYSTER-SPRAYS FOR DESERT. TEA AND TEA. I'M GAINING WEIGHT AGAIN. ONLY 1. I'M. ROTTUS IN TRAPS. NATIVE FROM ANAKI WAS USING NATIVE DYNAMITE. + A NISEE RABBIT. IN PRISON THE ISolated POLICE IN THE PRISON. HE WENT THE RBGE. FISH 4. I COLLECTED THE SMALLER ONES FOR THE MUSEUM. ONE P. SEMBOSE & BIRCH FISH. ANOTHER SMALL ONE HAD VERTICAL SEABISPL STREAMS IN THE SIDES. THE RIVER IS POUNDED BETWEEN STONES & THROWN INTO THE POOL. 2 SMALL BOYS BROUGHT ME 15 IF THE LARGE HIPPOPOTAMUS FOUND IN HILL. OF TREES.
Peria River, only 2 Rattus in traps. However, I had 13 bats that the small boys brought in last night. I made up 8 of these. Ken arrived back in camp from his trip to the bat cave at Tapo, brought in bats with him - 2 species: Small Dobsonia & the brown white checkered bat (Rhina Lophus?) that we found at DIAROA. Saw no small bats. Large Dobsonia was there too. A 2 hour rugged walk from the village. Geoff's boys & mine netted fish in the running river on the Kwagira Trail. Two of them were of good size & Kim cooked them for dinner. Ken also had a pigeon & scrub hen to contribute. Kim had baked an apricot pie - what a dinner! Tucking tonight for an hour... Shot a Uromys 20 yards from camp - right in the head. David also brought in a Uromys. Ken is planning to move our gear out of camp on Sept. 7 to Bialiwa.

Peria River. Rain set in after breakfast & lasted until dinner. 4 Rattus from traps. Finished up specimens after lunch & then went to tent to read, nap & water with Ken. Baited traps & shot a new bat for the camp - a Miniopterus. No jacking - woods are dripping wet. Stairs are wet & moon is coming up. 9:30 PM & I'm in bed again. Geoff is last man up. A welcome lazy day.

Peria River. Our best trap night at this camp - 7 Rattus of 2 species. And this P.M., my small boys brought me 15 Pterurus from near Otagwaru. Went tracking down river in the stream. Kept tonight on way home I was passing a shallow pool & I heard a splash - there was a Uromys wading, probably looking for prawns. This is only 2nd one for trip - an adult male. Saw at least half dozen giant frogs; they sit up on branches above water - eye shine very bright. Also found a band-tailed gecko for Geoff. A dry day in camp. Everyone out collecting - like like put out new trip line. Ken was on the go every little while shooting pigeons. We had our lunch & a large one for dinner - boys also had one. Oma came down from Awai, with Okari nuts we sold for Samara 4 weeks from today.
Fri. Aug 28, 1953
Peria River. Down to Z. Ratius in traps Len sent Niko in the camp about 11, asking for his suit. Sun. past 11:30 I found 3 tiny rats hanging under a fern palm leaf. Shot it turned out to be the前辈's tail. I shot first night here. Sun. came out for a while today but it is raining again tonight. Ken I went out hacking on the new tram tram. Could see cutting west to the Kako River. Very closed in with no wicked thoughts of lawyer mine. Shot a Meeus on ground & a long-tailed kingfisher that I thought was a rat. Also, a field mouse, a flying squirrel in large trees. Don't think we'll come down. Rain sent us home. Had lamp going all day in tent. Skins drying very well.

Sat. Aug. 29
Peria River. The end of our 23 week of field work. Specimen total: 1547. And this P.M. (late) David came in with directions the Howland scrub wallaby that has eluded me for the past few weeks. A young male, blue-gray, melage, long-furred, short, thick tail. Only 2 young Ratius tags a month caught in the same trap. However, some Biniguni days brought in a Mulgays & Pogonomyms. Packed a black box to go out on next Monday's carry to Kwagura. Wrapped all my wet specimens for shipment also wrapped my dry study skins. The lamp burning in the tent each day has helped the drying. Police runner in with local mail from Samarai. No particular news. Bought more vegetables using salt. Pigeon (Kine flyover) for wonderful baked taro for dinner tonight. No hacking. Wrote Harold Rag & a "Day." Sending 1 film out. Ken started opening 12 gauge shells up today. Trying to devise shot to kill pigeons in high trees. Evidently succeeded because he collected our Sunday night dinner. Geoff still cutting tram to the west. Showers & sun today.

Sun. Aug. 30
Peria River. Had the camp to myself this A.M. Len, Geoff & Ken, went up to Oparigwari to take pictures of dancers who have been our carriers. Men from Biniguni came toomany had bird of paradise head dresses. My boys & I stayed home, worked on specimens. Geoff & Ken back for lunch. We tied up loads for the 10 carriers who arrive tomorrow.
Away all day collecting. Ken shot 2 more pigeons & a scrub hen today. Had them for dinner. Out jamming tonight took a 3 ft. tree snake home to Geoff. Missed a raty at bat. David had more luck -- he shot a giant bandicoot & a uromys. I shot a pipistrellos before dinner. It has been very humid today with a little breeze now & again. A persistent frog chorus tonight. Bought Bam- 

Pipe & string carrying bag for Anthropology.

243 (24)  Mon. Aug. 31

Peria River. Ken's carry down to Kwagira went off without a hitch. Left at 9:30 & back at 12:45. Camp is looking bare -- our final carry next Monday will be light. Small boys brought in some lower mandibles -- 2 wallabies, white cuscus & a bandicoot. 2 Rattus & 2 melomys in traps. Lovely day with breeze. Rain late afternoon but not enough to spoil jamming. We hit the jackpot: David shot 3 bandicoots, I shot 1, and Ken a cuscus & a uromys. 3 of the bandicoots have pouch young! Geoff cut more trail -- still hasn't reached the next river west. Ken is making plans to collect a few mammals for me after we leave Papua. He is very keen on hunting. Pigeon stew for dinner. We are running out of tobacco & Ken has already started on trade tobacco. I ran out of candy long ago!

244 (245)  Tues. Sept. 1

Peria River. I melomys in traps just as well because we had a long morning preparing bandicoots. Ken skinned the uromys & then tried his hand at filling in the p.m. He needed a little rescue work but he did very well for a first skin. Wrapped a few more skins -- will have a box for the Thurs. semi-final carry. Geoff finally reached his river - about 1000 m. of the Gwarri River gorge on the Manau range. David shot a pigeon (Gaura) which we had for dinner - lots of white breast meat. Bat shooting tonight but my reflexes were too slow. Heard scolding of Dactyloropsa tonight but Ken & I could not locate him in tree. Bobby brought in an owl, I may work on this if I have only a few mammals. Each bandicoot had 2 pouch young. David & Tommy brought in traps today. Specimen count - 1580.
PERIA RIVER, Made up the river which Bobby brought home from track-ing last night - my first saw since 1945. Went fairly well. In stomach I found the complete, undamaged head of a Rattus. It cleaned up perfectly! Had 3 Rattus in traps (also a large Goana) for our only mammals of the day. We got the Dactylopsila. Three - a hole lined with fresh leaves, but no animals. Except a fine big grub. Ken made up a couple of Rats this day. We're improving. Wrapped more mains today and passed a black box. Full. May have yet another box by next Monday. Ken leaves tomorrow for Kwigirra, with a few lads from here. Southampton will come up to Kwigirra for goods left in rest house several days ago. Tracking tonight. Ken shot a Dobsina. I missed a small one (Melomys?). We are waiting for him to come in - we heard him fire shots. Fish this P.c. and for dinner (the fish were only 2; long & slippery). Hand & Tammy went to Bandaw today. Will await with hope. George igniting fire in the fly starting to read his detective stories over for the second time. He is hard up for civilization? Boys were drumming a menari dance tonight.

Peria River, 2:30 P.M. For the first time in weeks I have nothing to do. A blue sky day with a cooling breeze. It is spring here in the rain forest. Many trees are flowering out; not that they were leafless. They lose a few at a time. Butterflies are everywhere. The birds of paradise are quiet for a little while. It is just like an early Sept. day on the farm. Even the crickets are calling. Ken's carriers showed up early. My specimens & last ammo box disappeared down the trail to the coast via Kwigirra. Made up Dobsina. Nothing in traps. Lik was not successful. Last night Len collected his last big batch of plants - he is having a hard time finding much that is new. We have spent too much time here but carrier transport for Mr. Lord of equipment ties us down. Him found an old hollow tree with possum scratches. We cut it down & smoked it. But no possum. Carriers back at 4 P.M. Note from Ken saying crank went well. At noon he was at Mbiiri waiting for tide to rise so canoes with gear could get out of the river into laby. 9:30 just brought home the most beautiful carpet snake I have ever seen, 10 1/2" long. Found no mammals. Lik's named a wallaby. Brought home snake.
247  FRIDAY, SEPT. 4, 1953

PERIA RIVER. I MELOMYS IN THE LIM'S LINE GAVE US OUR ONLY
SPECIMEN FOR THE DAY. UP AT 5:30 A.M. TO SHOOT BATS BUT
THEY ALL CLUNG TO CLOSE TO TREES. ISELELE & I WENT OUT TO
LOOK FOR TREE BATS BUT FOUND NONE. SUNNY MORNING BUT OVER-
CAST NOW. THIS IS THE END OF OUR 3RD WEEK IN THIS CAMP. IT
WILL BE GOOD TO SEE THE CoAST AGAIN EVEN THOUGH KEN SAYS
THAT BAiana IS VERY HOT. BACK I WENT BACKING UP THE DRY
RIVER BED FOR QUITE A DISTANCE. COMING BACK ON THE OLD AWAN
TRACK WE FOUND A BANDICOOT ON THE TRAIL-SMALL GIANT BANDICOOT
THIS GIVES US AN EXCELLENT SERIES FROM THIS CAMP. SHOT 1 HIPPO.
ISFOR DINNER. READ ALL 5 KAYS LETTERS FROM #8 ON. IT'S ABOUT
TIME ANOTHER MAIL ARRIVED. Wrote to Joyce, Robert & Donald.

248  SAT, SEPT. 5

PERIA RIVER. END OF OUR 24TH WEEK. 1,592 SPECIMENS. AND TONIGHT I
THE BEST SPECIMENS OF THE EXPEDITION WAS ADDED TO THE LIST.- THE
FEATHER-TAILED POSSUM! I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR THIS LITTLE MARSU-
PIAL ALL TRIP. NIKI, BILLY, ISELELE & I WENT DOWN THE KWAHIRA MOUNT
AND JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO HEED FOR CAMP BILLY SPOTTED EYES IN THE
TOP OF A TALL SLENDER TREE. WHAT LUCK I AM HAVING! SHOT 1 HIPPO-
SIDERUS & LIIT LIIN A UROMYS. L.L. HAD A MELOMYS & ISELELE FOUND A
TINY BREADTH TAIL BATS UNDER A PALM LEAF. COLLECTED THEM WITH HIO.
JUST AS WE FINISHED BREAKFAST A POLICE RUNNER CAME IN WITH A BIG
MAIL 5 ISSUES OF TIME LETTERS FROM: KAY (#1) AUG 7. 2 FROM MOTHER
AUG 3.14; JANET M. AUG. 19; DRIED AG. AUG. 16; A. DICKINSON, JULY 28.; + A
STATEMENT FROM ROYAL BANK, MEDELLIN DATED MAY 2. KEN ARRIVED HERE
FROM BAiana AT 9:30 A.M. - GOOD TIME. BROUGHT ME SOME CANDY
FROM THE ARMY RATION PACK. TOMORROW WE PACK.

249  SUN, SEPT. 6

PERIA RIVER. THE MORNING WAS SPENT MAKING UP SPECIMENS AND BEING
NEEDLED BY KEN TO HURRY MY FINAL PACKING. HE CALLS HIMSELF A "PANIC
MERCHANT" & WANTS TO GET EVERYTHING DONE A DAY AHEAD OF TIME. THEN
FEATHER-TIAIL MADE UP WELL. DRIED SKULLS & WRAPPED ALL EXCEPT 3
TRAYS OF SKINS WHICH WENT INTO THE COLLECTING TRUNK. BY MIDDAY-
NOON THE CAMP WAS ALL WRAPPED UP FOR BREAKING CAMP. BUNGEI
CARRIERS CAME IN ABOUT DINNER TIME TO SPEND THE NIGHT ON THE RIVER
SANDS. WE GAVE THEM A BIG FEED OF RICE & WE ARE DISTRIBUTING ALL OF
OUR SALT TO THE 4 VILLAGES (B. AWAHI, OPAIGWARI, & BUDUMAGA) THAT HAVE
BEEN SO HELPFUL TO US. CAUGHT UP ON MY WORLD NEWS IN THE 5 ISSUES OF
“Ten” that arrived in the mail. Finished up our gear and soon after dinner we went to bed with my flashlight for light and then drifted off to sleep with the frogs cricket choruses in the ears for the last time. This was our first real sight of Maniau. It looked very barren in the sun haze. Arrived at the landing in Mobi, Creva at 11 a.m. The tide was creeping slowly over the mud flats up the mangrove roots. It was 3 p.m. before we could land the canoes & start pulling down the narrow channel. In the meantime we had morning tea & lunch. Ken paid off the carriers & we shook hands all around, women included. It was a most friendly ending to a good shoot. Bought a lime gumd (intimation when they chew betel nut) from the original counselor for the museum collection. Took a few pictures of the canoes but the creek is washed over by mangrove branches & the light was not too good. As we poled across shallow Mobi, Bia Bay a fresh sea breeze was blowing but not enough to help water in places we were only 2 or 3 feet above the coral heads, but a shark surfaced near our canoe for the only excitement. Arrived at the Briawa Jetty just before 5 p.m. Our swags & working gear went up to the first house on the hill where we sat & look out over the bay to Cape Nelson & the orange sunsets & south to Maniau. Sleeping in my own cot again tonight. Len & Geoff opened their last bottle of rum & got out a few packs of Lucky Strikes they found in the broy ration kits. Ken & David are out hunting wallaby tonight. Capt. Smith is due in the 10 a.m.

Briawa. Ken shot a wallaby last night. Gave it to the boys to roast whole over the coals. They put it in skin & all, saved the skull for me. Spent most of the day going over my gear, sorting out & repacking. We will have to have a real shake.
Down of our gear when we reach Samarai. I 설시 직 I want out hunting for wallaby tonight on the grassy hills above
the Post House. We heard a number thumping their tails(?) on
the ground, but we saw none in the high grass. Droppings every-
where. Many acres had been burned off. A good crop of new
grass was up. We then hacked in the scrub, flying foxes
feeding, but we could see none. Finally came to stream from
which boys were getting our water. As I stood there a bat
flew into my light beam not 5 feet away. Fired my .41 from
the hip, then a .410 gauge #6 which brought her down. It was
my old friend Nyctimene - the first collected on the trip.

On my last collecting night! Luckily the shot hit the
rear end & the right wing. Skull perfect & skin made up well.
My collecting luck has been out of this world. Ken shot
another wallaby tonight, he & David had quite a chase but
they finally caught her up. Village policeman brought up
a few partial skulls of wallabies.

252 (223) Wed. Sept. 9, 1953
Kiriwa. Made up bat & boys skinned out the 8 wallaby. I had 2 touch young when shot but one fell out while "Davy"
was carrying her home. Picked up the sound of the Cape Vogel
at least 1/2 hour before anyone else heard her (including Ken).
Came up to anchor about 2:30 P.M. Ken had all cargo ready
for loading - finished by dinner. Capt. Smith, who has a trading
station "Koonwarra" on the tip of Cape Vogel came up for
dinner. Our boys put on a dance in the village. Went to
sleep to the sound of drums. Policeman gave me more skulls which
resulted from a village hunt today. Took pictures of huntens.

253 (224) Thur. Sept. 10
Baiwa thru Collingwood Bay, past Cape Vogel into Good-
ough Bay. Up before dawn & off to an early start. Soon
after day breaks. Fine weather but the S.E. hit us as we
rounded the Cape. Called in at Capt. Smith's place. Good
anchorage. Building a new go-down (warehouse & store)
has cotton, sisal, coconuts, paw-paws & rosewood. Dining
a very fine place. Weighed myself on copra scale - 185
with all clothes. Sailed about 4 P.M. We will run all
night across the Bay. EGGS for Breakfast! Fish steaks for
lunch.
On board the "Cape Vogel" (Capt. William Smith). After a long night of cat-naps in one of our canvas chairs and a few breaks from the galley duty for fresh air, we were coming up on East Cape about 6 a.m. That across mouth of Milne Bay down thru China Straits took another 5 hours. In the straits we were looking out for blowfish not to feed on (actually hits them sometimes). Also the new familiar smell of dried cobra. Ailsa took me up to "Dusty" Miller's house for lunch. Lucky! For the duration of my stay in Samarai, Real Australian lettuce for lunch. By the time I reached the dock at 1:30 P.M. Ken had the unloading well underway. I unpacked my latest skull specimens from Bismarck numbered & cataloged them. 1621 specimens for the mainland phase of our expedition have all my gear to gather in the bunting bulk shed - what a relief! Later to the Service Men's Club at 4:30 to meet some of my friends. Ken's mate, Lionel, was in from an island trip. The tales of the expedition had begun. Mail from brother, Dorothy, & Dr. Anthony. Dinner with Dusty & Ailsa & to bed in their lovely house with a view up China Straits at 11 P.M. They are building another house not far away in a still more lovely spot. A friend, Cecil Able, from Milne Bay is doing the construction. Father the founder of Kwato Mission who is mission trained and a Cambridge graduate. He has a loving wife & a lovely home on s. side of bay. It seems strange to be in a proper bed again. And I can have all the ginger beer I can drink. Geoff has a limp right arm today. May be serious - perhaps a result of accumulated fatigue & nervousness? Len wants to leave for Goodenough next Tuesday if we can find a boat.

Samarai went down to shed to take care of skins. Start my repacking. Geoff & Len to hospital to see doctor. Len had x-rays taken of his strained shoulder. Nothing wrong. Dr. believes that Geoff has had a very slight
STROKE BUT HAS NOT TOLD HIM OF HIS SUSPICION. HIS ARM IS STILL PARTIALLY LIMP. HAS RECOMMENDED REST AND NO MT. CLIMBING AND NO WHISKEY. SPENT THE P.M. SORTING OUT MY CLOTHES, LETTERS, + PAPERS. TONIGHT, AILSA + DUSTY INVITED LEN + GEOFF UP FOR A DINNER + DELICIOUS. THEN THEY STAYED A DRANK UNTIL 11:30 A.M. + I COULD HARDLY KEEP OUR EYES OPEN. I NEVER SAW THE VIEW OF CHINA STRAND FROM DUSTY'S HOUSE. THE S.E. BLOWS STEADILY + THE CLOUDS HAVE BEEN threatenING ALL P.M.

256  (224)  SUN. SEPT. 13, 1953

Samarra. Ken, Wyn invited us to a party for his samarra friends. Geoff could not go — very depressed. (Do not mention to Miriam.) massaged his arm + shoulder for him. Left him all day. The party included some dancing + clowning. The only complaint about parties. Here is the fact that the same people are there all the time. Home about midnight. Wrote letters.

257  (225)  MON. SEPT. 14

Samarra. Geoff no better. Came down to the warehouse this A.M. + told me that he will probably go home instead of going to Goobenough with us. He can not use his right arm. Len + Packed most of the day. Ken drummed up his bulk staves. Len + Geoff gave a cocktail party for our friends. Rather stuffy. Dusty, Ailsa + I left about 8:30. Met Mr. Dudley Rutledge, the district commissioner, who is here in Samarra while Mr. Michael Healy is on leave. Mr. P. is in charge of the isl island subdistrict. Lives at Esa, Ala. On Normanby Island. Met Ailsa's mother + father again today. Mr. Grabben is retiring to Goobenough Island + Mud Bay. Len is not having much luck finding information of the island. Dusty's birthday Sept. 2 + Ailsa's Nov. 5. After work went home with Nick Russell to meet Mrs. Russell. They have a lovely house on the south side of the island. S.E. sweeps their open air porches. He is English; the Belgeian. They entertained Ru. Hoogland when he came through. On way back we saw native with small snake. I claimed him for the collection. Probably first snake reported from S. Tonight on the way home we found another small snake on the path. Ailsa is an understanding hostess. She even provided a tax.
258  
**229**  
SAMARAI, Holiday - ANNEXATION OF PAPUA BY QUEENSLAND.  
RAINFALLS BEATING, BY ISLAND, ALL DAY. 1000 TON ENGLISH COPRA FREIGHTER DOCKED THIS A.M. STRIKING OPERATION BECAUSE OF THE COPRA RUBBAGE IN THE DOCK. THERE ARE 100 TON COPRA IN THE WAREHOUSE. LEN, TADY + TAMHAHAD SHORT CONFERENCE IN P.M. GEOFF IS LEAVING FOR KIRIBATI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. LEN WILL TAKE OVER SOME OF HIS COLLECTING. WE MAY HAVE A BOAT FOR GOODENOUGH BAY.  
FRIDAY I CALLED AT THE HOSPITAL ON TOP OF THE HILL. I HAD A BEER WITH THE Z-SISTERS + THE ERICSON. THEY HAD EXPECTED GEOFF TO SPEND THE NIGHT THERE RESTING. BUT HE DECIDED TO STAY AT THE BUNTINGS. LEN + GEOFF DID NOT GO TO BED LAST NIGHT. THEY SURE LIKE THEIR PARTIES LIQUID. ALISA + DUSTY HAD A GUEST FOR DINNER TONIGHT + WE TALKED UNTIL 11 P.M. SAW AN OSPEY CARRYING A FISH TO THE ISLAND TODAY.  

259  
**230**  
SAMARAI. WORKED ON SPECIMENS MOST OF DAY. THE PAGES (COLORED) OF THE SAT EVE POST ARE AFFECTED BY THE FUMES OF THE PARADICHLOR + OR NAPHTH. THE COLORS HAD RUN TOGETHER IN THE PAPER WHICH I HAD USED TO WRAP SKIN SPECIMENS. ONLY A FEW SKINS HAD COLOR SPOTS ON THE UNDERPARTS - ONE HAD A PINE NOSE! REWRAPPED ALL POST SPECIMENS. MAIL CAME IN ON THE MORNING FLYING BOAT. LETTER FROM MOTHER + ONE FROM MIRIAM. COULD PLANE GO ON TO RABUZ + RETURNS TO SAMARAI 2 DAYS LATER.  
HARD RAIN SQUALLY TONIGHT. DUSTY IN BED EARLY. ALISA + I TALKED LATE. A LONG LETTER TO DUSTY FROM DR. BILL SYMONTH WHO LOST HIS SLEEP ON BARRIER REEF + LIVED ON THE WRECKED LIBERTY SHIP THERE FOR 13 DAYS. DETAILS MADE A FASCINATING STORY. HE MADE THE BAD MISTAKE OF TAKING 2 GREENHORNS WITH HIM ON BLUE WATER.  

260  
**231**  
THURS. SEPT. 17  
SAMARAI. GEOFF LOOKS MUCH BETTER. HAS A BOOKING ON THE MALAYA (3000 TONS) SAILING NEXT MONDAY FOR SYDNEY. WILL SAIL FOR LONDON EARLY IN OCTOBER. THIS WILL BE THE BEST MEDICINE OF ALL. FOR GEOFF. GAVE HIS ARM A MASSAGE BEFORE DINNER. FINISHED REWRAPPING MY SKINS TODAY. POISONED ALL 4 Knockdown BOXES WHICH THEN OPENED FOR ME. BOUGHT A SMALL COLLECTION OF STONE AXES + WAR CLUBS + CARVED WOODEN OBJECTS FOR OUR ANTHROPOLOGY DEPT. £15 FOR...
The lat. Bought from Mr. Thomas Craig. Gave me some "Cat's Eyes" = half round operculum plates from certain kind of sea snails (1). Could be made into lovely necklace. A windy day with heavy rain at intervals. Went home to lunch in my bare feet. S/S Erne Bank still loading copra. Still no word from our charter boat "Jessie". Dirty weather has her holed up somewhere on coast. Don't know when we will get away now. Tonight as usual Ailsa, Dusty and I are spending a quiet evening talking and reading with our feet on the coffee table.

261  
Fri Sept. 18, 1953

Samarai. Today saw a continuation of last night's relaxation. Dusty stayed home again to rest his rash. We both borrowed into our books and stayed there with time out only for meals. I was reading a book about a remarkable escape from the German camp for British aviators Stalag III. Dusty was a Bomber pilot shot down early in the war; he spent 2½ years in this camp and helped in the organizing that led to the escape. Book: "The Wooden Horse". It has been another dirty day with rain squalls blowing down on the island every hour or so.

262  
Sat. Sept. 19, 1953

Samarai. Word has finally reached us that the Jessie will arrive this weekend. This means we will be able to leave either Mon. or Tues. for Goodenough. Everything is ready to go on board at a moment's notice. I saw Mr. Wilson in Bunting's office this A.M. to make reservations south for the middle of December. Both plane + ship - the latter takes only 4 days to Brisbane + may be better that waiting for the weekly plane. However, I have not yet heard from Mr. Williams in Brisbane concerning sailings to London in December. Spent the P.M. reading. Ailsa invited Geoff and Len for dinner. Geoff is looking better but is still not himself + his arm is still half limp. Dusty showed a few of Len's Menapi Koda chromes - none of them very good. He also showed us his own pictures of local mainland + island spots. The small islands with their reefs + beaches are lovely. They have a boat, the "Wari" - motor + sail. The rain has stopped us from going out to the islands for a swim.
Sun. Sept. 20, 1953

Samarra. This looks like our last day here. The weather is breaking up: the sea is calmer. Wrote mother + May + kept diary to date. Read + relaxed. "Jennie" may be ready for our charter trip to Goodenough Island tomorrow.

Mon. Sept. 21

Sailed at 2:30 P.M. for Goodenough via Normanby + Ferguson Islands. Very heavy rain all A.M. Most of our cargo loaded between swallows. Sun out in P.M. Tide against us in China Strait, almost full moon tonight. Calm sea.

Tues. Sept. 22

Arrived Normanby Island about 4:15 A.M. Docked at Esq. A large government station. This is administrative headquarters for islands of the T'entre Castaeyux Group. Patrol Officer Robert Greeney is going with us to Goodenough Island for a few days. Ken spoke to office interpreter who knows something of island towns. Norl Evenett's boat tied up at wharf too. Had breakfast at D.O.'s home + sailed at 9:30. We are now bound for Ferguson Island to drop Billy + Sigimuto off at their villages on south coast (these are Geoff's boys). Mainland N.G. barely visible to south. Clouds hanging at about 300 ft. on Ferguson. Entered large bay at west end of Ferguson + docked at Marumua, site of a government medical station. Charles Corbett invited us for lunch. But we could not stay. Sailed through passage between Ferguson + Goodenough. N. Past Mud Bay (volcanic funnels) on S. side. Docked at Bolu Bolu about 6:15 P.M. We are staying in a tin-roofed office shed put up by American forces during war. Concrete floor. Enough room for all our gear: good work space. We are on a coastal strip backed by ridges to the west running up to 3000 ft. The north tip of the island is visible. They want us to search for a good spot to camp at about 6000 ft. We are in grass country with a few patches of scrub in some of the high valleys. Brought essential gear up: turned in early. A beautiful full moon rose early over Ferguson Island. No trap or hacking tonight.

Wed. Sept. 23

Goodenough Island. Bolu Bolu. Village counselors + police men had
Received word of arrival of the Government (Mr. Greenley) at Belu. Americans - magic word here! Carriers arrived. Our supplies started coming up from the "Jessie." Sorting & storing took most of morning. Cut a track in nearest scrub & put down my first trap line. Very dry, doesn't look too promising. I see 5 sick if, are most of the boys, with severe colds caught in Samarai. Mr. Greenley & I went out track line in grass. Al Ramsden, an old Island trader, arrived in his boat & came up for dinner. Mr. Greenley & I went hunting. I shot a cuscus in scrub on hillside. Dorsal stripe light, whitish brown. Ken brought in 2 flying squirrels & our first big Nyctimene! (hanging in tree). These came from big "A" scrub & gardens along coast road to north. The rum started flowing freely. Ken & I went to bed early. Ramsden passed out in his chair during the night, but Lena & Mr. Greenley were still talking at dawn.

Thur. Sept. 24

Belu. Belu Traps gave 3 Rattus. (2 species) - all in grass. I had none in my rain forest line. My boys & I are back in our usual routine. We will miss David's hunting, however. Ken was offered a lift up the coast in Ramsden's boat. He & Mr. Greenley & Ramsden left soon after lunch. Bob is going on patrol around the north end of island. I will then re-turn from W. to E. by climbing over the middle of the island. Ken is going up from east side. They may meet & do a little exploring together. Niko is with Ken. Have seen very few small birds. Many black & white Torres Straits pigeons. Lik Lik & I hacked the scrub on N. track. Saw nothing except flying foxes - shot one with yellow nap & whitish "spectacles." Heard Nyctimene twice. Moon bright.

Fri. Sept. 25

Belu. Belu & small grass Rattus in traps. Sharp shower at 6 A.M. We see rain clouds in mountains very frequently but we seldom have rain here. Wind is never steady but comes in sharp gusts. Al Ramsden arrived back about tea time. Sent up a kingfish for dinner. We invited him in to help eat his fish & we spent a pleasant evening discussing the personalities & problems of the territory. He was full of information about wartime activities in the islands. A quiet day until the grass cutting crew from Deli Bell showed up to cut down the rampant Kangaroo grass. They swarmed over the place like...
Locusts soon discovered us at work. We moved inside but we then had a window audience for the rest of the day. To bed early.

269 Sat. Sept. 26, 1953

Bali Bolu 2 Petti (2 species) + 2 Mus in grass traps. Made up by lunch time. Kim, Lik Lik + I set out for some caves, south along the coast near Kim's village. Light here at 12.30 P.M. Arrived at caves at 2:30 - a long hot walk. Trail followed shore in places, passed thru a large coconut plantation on the next point south of us. Small patches of scrub near shore but most of country is in grass. No running streams. We reached a broad shoulder of land just north of Mud Bay. Just this sign of Kim's village. Kim cut down an old green bed + then wandered out, into the grass. 6'6' high, covering old rough limestone boulders. He had not visited the caves since Boyhood but he had no trouble finding them. A few trees growing out of a pink hole in a sea of grass marked the entrance to 3 small caves which looked like old wave-washed holes. Elevation now about 75 + 3/4 mile from coast. About a dozen bats (all of 1 species Hippoelderis) + we did well to collect 5 of them. Very nervous - caught 1 by hand but others shot with dust. No sign of Dobsonia but we saw evidence of native visits + they would only come for large bats. Started home at 4:1. Arrived 6:15. Kim opened green coconuts - milk very good. Also stopped at plantation + ate oranges which were given to us by Kim's mother + father-in-law. Kim also met his father on the track. He and other men just returning from fishing party. Cool walking the northern peaks clear to bed early.


270 Sun. Sept. 27

Bali Bolu. Made up 4 bats - 2 with embryos. No trap catch. A hilly, rather blustery day with a few spots of rain blowing into our windowless "ranch house." We have new trap lines out tonight. Boys have lines along first stream to north. Len had a good day. Found 1 tree he can not identify to family. Kim is off visiting his manager. Losima's brothers are visiting here in camp. The families of Bsbriy + Tommy canceled over from Fergusson Island to visit. This is yam planting time. This + bananas, most important island crops.
TOMT. SHAT A & CUSCUS WITH Z. POUCH YOUNG; ALSO A NYCTIMENE.
ISILELE & I WERE OUT TOGETHER; SHOT FLYING SQUIRREL BUT WE LOST IT
IN TALL GRASS - SQUIRREL IN TREE ABOUT 50 YDS. FROM SCRUB. FOUND A
NYCTIMENE HANGING IN SMALL TREE; ONLY 1 EYE SHINING - PALE YELLOWISH-
WHITE - RESEMBLED SPIDER EYE BUT NOT AS BRIGHT. WIND BLOWING HARD.

291

Mon. Sept. 28, 1953

BOWL BOWL. MY TRAPS HAD NOTHING BUT CRABS IN THEM. ONLY 1 RATTUS
IN OTHER LINES. BLUE SKY IN PATCHES; WIND GUSTY & STRONG. WENT
IN BIG SCRUB TO N.W. OF US IN THE FOOT HILLS. PEAKS
CLEAR EARLY BUT HIDDEN IN CUMULUS NOW (11 A.M.). NOW THAT GEOFF HAS
LEFT IT IS MY JOB TO ISSUE BOYS' HAIL. DAILY: 1 LB. RICE; 1/2 LB. DRIED
PORK OR WHEAT MEAL FLOUR; 1/3 CAN CROPPED BEANS, VEGETABLES WHEN WE CAN
BUY THEM. WEEKLY: 2 TINS TOBACCO PAPER; MATCHES; 4 OZ. SALT; 1 OZ. TET;
1/2 LB. SUGAR; 1 LB. BEEF DRIPPING; 2 OZ. SOAP. JACKING WAS PARTICULARLY
FRUSTRATING TONIGHT. I SAW 7 PETAVRUS, A FLYING FOX & A NYCTIMENE
BUT DID NOT GET A SHOT. LIKLIK SHOT TWICE AT A CUSCUS & ONCE AT A
BAT BUT MISSED. VERY HIGH WIND COMING IN GUSTS MADE HUNTING
DIFFICULT. STILL HUNTING OUT OF QUESTION. SMALL BAT FLEW OVER
SHED AT BATH TIME; I HAD DISAPPEARED BY TIME I PICKED UP MY GUN.
THIS IS FIRST SMALL BAT I HAVE SEEN AT JUSK.

292

Tues. Sept. 29

BOWL BOWL. BLANK FOR ALL TRAP LINES. BEAUTIFUL DAY. TOOK SEVERAL
PICTURES OF THE PEAKS AT 6:30 A.M. 1/25 AT 6:30. MOUNTAIN HEIGHTS
ARE DESCRIPTIVE HERE; CERTAINLY TO NOT LOOK AT 5000 FEET. WHITE
CAPS ON THE SEA. KEN WYNN & BOB GREENLEY ARRIVED BACK IN CAMP
ABOUT 9:30 A.M. KEN BROUGHT BACK A SMALL WALLABY - BLACK, WITH
WHITE HAIR CASES, SHORT TAIL. CAUGHT BY DOGS. SKIN & SKULL IN GOOD
CONDITION. LOOKS LIKE AN EXCITING ADDITION TO ISLAND'S Fauna. KEN HAD A
ROUGH TRIP - RAIN, WIND & THICK SCRUB ABOVE 5000 FT. DID NOT ATTEMPT
TO CLIMB ANY OF THE PEAKS. BOB HAD A LONG SCRAMBLE FROM WEST SIDE OF
ISLAND OVER THE CENTRAL RIDGES TO JOIN KEN'S TRACK DOWN TO EAST COAST.
BOTH FOOT SORE & QUAR TO BE BACK AT BASE CAMP. CARETAKER'S WIFE BROUGHT
IN SMALL RAT CAUGHT IN HER HOUSE. MORE TRAPS OUT TODAY - NOW ABOUT 100.
TRAPS OUT AT A FEW MUSEUM SPECIALS - PRACTICALLY ALL IN SCRUB. 3 PARTIES OUT
JACKING: KEN & TOMMY; 1 JOBOSONA; 1 NYCTIMENE; LIKLIK & ROBBY; 1 NYCTIMENE.
ISILELE & I; 1 JOBOSONA. I MISSED A NYCTIMENE IN FLIGHT. WE NOW HAVE 11
SPECIES FOR THE ISLAND. NO SIGN OF HYDROMYS, UROMYS OR BANDICOOT.
273 (244) Wed. Sept. 30, 1933
"Bolu Bolu. Another blank trap night. The 2nd Dussonia & 2 Nyctimene made up our day's catch. We all sat down in the P.M. & worked out our requirements for our mountain trip. Ken believes we will have no trouble with carriers. All very friendly. Bob Greenly staying here today hoping that a mission boat will show up to return him to Fao. Alf went hunting down to coconut plantation; saw 2 Nyctimene, shot one. Saw a number of small bats along trail. Should be good shooting at dusk. Ken caught in a young coconut. Fruit & vegetables are coming in now. Very good times. Gave Bob an Army ration dinner for a send off."

274 (245) Thurs. Oct. 1, 1933
"Bolu Bolu. Rattus in traps. A lazy day until Ken & I went down to the coconut plantation. We saw quite a few, but all of our blazing away yielded only 1 bat. However, this is new for the island—a simple-nosed bat such as we found in the coconuts at Menapi. Now have 17 species. Saw another larger bat. Bob got off early this P.M. by boat. Took a letter for May with him—next place we'll be on the 13th. Peans clear. Back for dinner about 2:30. Ken waited for us—we had a real chicken dinner! Onions, sweet potatoes, English potatoes, Chinese long beans, cooked watercress, & oranges cut up in canned applesauce."

275 (246) Fri. Oct. 2, 1933
"Bolu Bolu. Nothing in traps. Made up the bat. The ants found him in my collecting box last night & chewed off an ear & part of his wing membranes, but it measured & made up all right. Sent the boys down to the coconut plantation to look for bat roosting holes in trees. Found none. Wrapped study skins in wet specimens. Ken & I went bat shooting in the plantation again, but there was a poor flight. The sand flies attacked Ken & I couldn't concentrate. I collected one flying squirrel on the way home. We heard another squirrel outside our donga—also collected. Lik Lik brought his traps in today... I day caught Rattus. Late in the afternoon I collected 6 & small grass finch—1 of which Dr. Mayr wrote was represented by only 1 specimen in the A.M.N.H. collection. Made it up—got 700 well."

276 (247) Sat. Oct. 3, 1933
"Bolu Bolu. Lesima had 1 Mos. in his grass traps. Lik Lik went..."
277 (248) Sun Oct 4, 1953

Boo, Boo. We brought in traps + another new species for the island - a large rat, with a tail not unlike our previously caught medium grass rats. This is 13 species to date. A native also brought in 11 lower mandibles of the grassland wallaby - all sizes - a good series. Have now found out why they never have complete skulls; they break open the cranium + eat the brain. A Ramsden showed up in his boat early in the A.M. Brought no mail, but he did leave us a dozen fairly fresh eggs in exchange for a bottle of rum. Left about noon. Finished packing carrier loads to bed early.

278 (249) Mon. Oct 5

Boo, Boo to Wakanai (about 500 ft.) Up at 5:30, carriers came at 6:14. We were on the trail at 6:30 A.M. Heading north along the coast - somewhat inland. We crossed a number of good-flowing mountain streams with sweet-tasting water. Arrived at Wakanai, a pleasantly located foothill village, about 9:30 A.M. Sun very hot during last hour. We overlook air strip which was used during war. Rushing stream just a few feet below the rest house. Spent day loafing + paddling in brook. Tomorrow we start up mountain. We are just under the easternmost of the peaks; thishoots up to 7,000 feet.

279 (250) Tues Oct 6

Wakanai to Garuwata #1 village to waterfall camp (840 m). Left Wakanai at 6:15 A.M. Started climbing spurs from central mass. We are south of the Garuwata River - peaks we north. Passed thru one tiny shantytown, perched on the knife edge track. Houses no bigger than our tent + made from corrugated iron that the people have salvaged from war surplus. Views opened up quickly. Vivian air strip, Amulet Island, to N.E. of Ferguson I.I., Seymurd Bay. Garden patches cleared on all but the very steepest of slopes. Taro, yams, manioc. The first spur was the worst. Then we started sidehill traveling along narrow trails in grass + stones. My cord-soled boots were perfect for the dry trails. Crossed 2 small streams which were life savers. Sun hot even.
At 8:30 A.M. against side hills (rise as high now). Garuwata River has a beautiful, split waterfall. We were high, about 300 ft. Upper, smaller falls on peak. Stopped at Garuwata. 9:45 A.M. Spelled for P.G. and while carriers cooked rice & we rested. During morning we passed several low stone platforms with elongated stones erected around perimeter (few left upright). Houses on stilts—have anchored points to climb to door. Several women carried for us—all had head carry. Left village at 11:00 A.M. Arrived camp 11:35. Just above rushing brook—very little level ground. Have rigged 2 flies for carriers & 1 tent for the 3 of us. We get our tea on schedule! Clouds low above us. Put up no signs of rain. Took some pictures from camp. Were in tree fern land again. Also umbrella trees with long stems of red flowers—saw them before in Cape York. Nov 4 P.M. We are resting & reading. Have comfortable swinging bed in main tent.


Waterfall camp to top camp (1580 M). Left 6:30 A.M. — Arrived 9:15 A.M. Had a good sleep. Broke camp & started up a real "good trail." Heading straight up to the top of high spur overlooking the Garuwata River gorge & across to the peaks. I was climbing with my hands as well as my toes part of time. Then forest all the way to top of spur. Took pictures from several lookout points. Clouds below most of time. Covered up beautiful views to east & south. Carriers had hard time for part of climb. Women still with us. Followed knife edge grass spur to edge of oak & bamboo scrub. Ken had cut trail into forest for about 1/4 mile. Nito & Lik Lik had 2 flies & 2 tents. Pitched a good camp with small running stream a few yards away. Hard rain at 5 P.M. Put out 16 M.S. traps close by camp. Ken out hacking for short time—nothing. Garuwata policeman this dog person. Camp will hunt for me for a couple of days. Does not know Dactylopsila from this island. Says there is a small dark cucugeus ot here. Bought some fowls, mambies & from some of carriers—inc. 1 bandicoot. Makes 14 species for island. Temperature 65°F tonight.

281 (252) Thurs. Oct. 8

Top camp. No rain. Made up the young cucugeus. Ken in my boy & were cutting track & doing camp chores most of day. Boys chopped down tree with hole. However, tree hung up & we never could find out if any Parasymphymus were in residence. Len has a rash.
Collecting ground. The old policeman and his dog were out most of the day. Brought back 2 *Dobsonia* which he found in holes in rock—not caves, according to his story. Ken + I hacked different trails tonight. Both of us saw, Nyctimene + I heard flying fox, but not a trace of cuscus or ground mammals. TIm baked a fine apricot pie tonight. In M.S. traps out tonight, caught a long-legged tree frog + Niko + Lesima 3 tiny frogs near water. Walked back to Grass Spur in P.M. Beautiful view of sea.

**Friday, Oct. 9, 1953**

Top camp. First mammal on the mountain was a small Rattus. M.F. 2:4:18, long, fairly soft pelage. Collected ticks on ears. Rained hard for 1/2 the night. In clouds in A.M. Cleared in P.M.; stars out + some wind tonight. Ken + I walked back to Grass Spur at 5 P.M., watched sun set + hacked back to camp. Saw nothing but Nyctimene. Peaks stark against the sky; sea covered with haze, cumulus heads white + solid. S.W. wind whipped cloud wisps down over our ridge. Looked for birds in undergrowth today but found none. Even birds in tree tops scarce. Many larger birds fly over (pigeons + parrots). Made up 2 *Dobsonia*—each had 1 embryo. This is certainly a different D. than I found on mainland. Len. had his boys collect a shrub today with bunches of beautiful rose, tubular flowers. To bed early. (9:15 P.M.)

**Sat. Oct. 10**

Top camp. Nothing in traps. Collected 3 specimens of birds: 2 species—all A.S. Black flycatcher, Rufous-chinned flycatcher, + a thrush-like bird. Sexing easy when fresh. 2 were will shot but one hit at close range—difficult to make up, sun out strong in A.M. In + out this P.M. Len. + Ken walked up to the ridge south of camp—about 100 m higher. Len. found a species of beech tree—not known for the island. Took sights on island peaks so that we will know approximately where we are on the map. Isilele + I went hiking for an hour over a new bush track they cut in. A.M. Perfect night—no wind, no rain drip. But also a perfect blank as far as mammals were concerned. Not a rustle on the ground or a movement in the trees. Ken. had the same experience. Went down in the 50's tonight for the first time. Slept warm in my bag + winter pajamas.
Sun. Oct. 11, 1953

Top camp. Blank in treelines. However, this was an exciting day. This morning, I collected 84 Pachyembria sp., mostly known from the island. This may permit description of a new species. According to Dr. Mayr, I have collected black head, white throat, yellow belly, black feet, and stomach. I found what I believe to be black beetles. The next specimen was a brown fly. Finally, I collected a beautiful red, black, honey eater (long curved bill). Mr. Somula Rosenberry longrostrus - known only from a single specimen discovered on the other Whitney South Side Expedition. This gives me 13 other species that Dr. Mayr was anxious to have collected. A fitting way to celebrate my 8th anniversary with the museum. Several natives made the climb to camp today from the water with fresh vegetables. One boy has skull of wallaby + several lower mandibles which I was given to try with trade tobacco. They came from slopes of the peaks to north today. One man has brought his dog + plans to hunt for us. For several days, I may get new animals from this camp yet. A dog is our best bet. Feeding (9pm), out hacking with Bliklik for an hour. We heard a susus but could not locate it. Shot a tree frog. Woods very wet.

Mon. Oct. 12

Top camp. Ken, Kim, and I went down to the hunting area with small hound. A fish caught 6 Paraponyers longear, long tails, gray & some with white underparts. A goodland species #16 for the island. At noon, our hunter came home with a new susus (dark with dorsal stripe) + 2 of the black wallabies. We are paying U.S. for each wallaby + a package of 12 razor blades paid for the hounds. The hunter + his dog are staying for a few days. More villagers arrived today with vegetables. But which they wanted salt, paper, tobacco and old flashlight batteries. Several had lower mandibles of wallabies. Susus + bandicoots. Bought them for a few sticks of tobacco. Cleared out cold with new moon tonight. No hacking. Made up a Rubus-capped flycatcher in a.m. Collecting continues, good for len.

Tues. Oct. 13

Top camp. Not very catchable. But our hunter came thru with an other wallaby and our first bandicoot. Wallaby was an old male, going grizzled, but still with good black body.
Bandicoot (Echimipera) small, spiny. Somewhat damaged but skull perfect. We now have skins for all species except lowland wallaby. Spent 8:45 A.M. making up pagonolax. Gone over flat skins. Ken left early this A.M. to pick out our next and last campsite on the Island. We want one at an elevation of about 2,500 ft. Will return Thursday. No time to collect birds today. Took 2 shots at small bat at dusk, but no luck. Found out that there is small bat cave at waterfall where we camped on way up. The counselor is to bring a few up next weekend. Lovely night. Going napping. Heard bi-weekly plane which puts down at Foul Bay. I may have carried a visitor for our camp. A forest service friend of Len's. Quiet as a church out there. No trace of a mammal. Only frogs. We walked up trail heading towards ridge above camp. In open trail passes over a wet, fat matting of ferns. The tall graceful tree ferns. The arching bamboo canes against the night sky with a crescent, were very lovely.

Top Camp. Another Rat in traps! Shot a tiny warbler-like bird which turned out to be another of the wanted species. Made up the bandicoot. Took a lot of sewing. This p.m. I made up my first parrot. Collected him last Monday & injected still fresh. Can not pull neck over skull. Nape has to be split. He came out very well. All the colors of the rainbow. But much more vivid. A bird of the sun and tree tops. Our hunter was in late today, but he brought a fine Bandicoot. Blackish head, whitish, hairless tip to snout. A slightly grizzled patch over each eye. Had boys open up our bat shooting area. This paid off at dusk when I collected a small minipterus, similar to those of the maneu camp. But blackish. 18 species for island M for top camp. Liked it. I soaked down the river. Thru Ken's first mountain camp. No mammals. To bed at 9.

288. Thurs. Oct. 15 259
Top Camp. Ken had our first 6 Rat in. Made up skins in A.M. Ken arrived in camp at 9:15 A.M. He has picked a 2nd camp for us at an elevation of about 2,000 ft. In open rain forest.
Ken just brought the rain into camp. Our hunter was out today, but the rain brought them, and dog pack early. First time without accidents! Ken has decided to leave tomorrow, so we took stock of food and packed up rest of supplies to come from Bow Down to camp. Ken and I have decided to cut this camp a few days short. Carriers will move us down the mountain on the 9th. Leave land camp on Nov. 9th for 2 or 3 days at Wakanal at foot of mountains, then return to Bow Down to pack. We hope a charter boat will pick us up on Nov. 14 or 15 to take us to Normanby Island for our last month of collecting. Raining so Ken and I turned in early and talked. No hatching.

268. Friday, Oct. 16, 1953

Top camp. Caught my first mammal - a Rattus (♀), our 4th for the camp. Also added a Tarush and Honeyeater to the collection. Ken was off early. He is going to Wakanal by the way of Garuwata. Put out a new trap line. Raining again. Wrote to Dr. Anthony. We have had no mail since leaving Samarai. Almost a month ago, Hunter + dog spelled today. Hopes to have a fresh dog brought up to camp. Out for a short walk after dinner. Nothing stirring. To bed early + read late (10 P.M.).

269. Saturday, Oct. 17

Top camp (Goodenough Is.). A quiet A.M. No mammals. Took the boys out hunting birds, but no luck. Saw a number but I am being selective in my collecting. Some Garuwata boys arrived about noon. They had a young mountain cuscus + a Pogonomys. Also a collection of skulls + lower mandibles - all mountain material. Bought them for salt, tobacco + newspaper. First evidence of Uromys on the island - a lower jaw. Have not had time to sort them out. All of these boys have green sticks for the septum of the nose. They are friendly + respectful. People hunting is a very necessary part of their lives. Ken was out hunting for tree holes this P.M. + has one located which may produce mammals. A good hatching night. Shot my first cuscus + also had shots at what I believe to be Nyctimene + Macroglossus. Also collected a few frogs - 2 of these were sitting in the water in the cut stems of bamboo. It took us a while to locate them. Dinner: Tomato soup, fish rissoles, pumpkin, stewed apricots. Rain has brought out a lot of earthworms. Our hunter brought in another of cuscus - darker than first.
Sun. Oct. 18, 1953

Top Camp. Runner arrived with our first island mail. Card from Russ Peterson (N.H. Sept. 14); Mother (Sept. 16). Also a note from "Justy" Miller in Samoan (Sept. 26) saying that Geoff had suffered a second stroke soon after we left. Improving as of date; may fly him home. Will have good care in hospital for several weeks. Am sending letters off tomorrow by runner to coast (Kay, Mother, Miriam Conn, Uncle Will + Dr. Anthony). Made up our skins & put skull labels on all of the skulls + mandibles that the natives traded to me. Nothing new besides the rodent turned up. Small boy brought us a wallaby + a cuscus skull this A.M. They know I want complete skulls now. Each one is worth a double sheet of newspaper! Also bought a few sweet potatoes + coconuts. Hunter stayed home for a spell today. Nothing in traps. Boys cutting more track for hacking. No bats at dusk tonight. Kim made delicious dumplings + banana fritters for dinner. Sunny most of day - few showers tonight. Note from Ken; reached Bowu Bowu yesterday + will wait for our return runner before leaving for Wainiwalli to send up carriers.

Mon. Oct. 19

Top Camp. Kim produced our 5th KATTOO. Len + Isiingle brought in traps + we all slid down a mossy rock strewn gulley to stream below our camp. They put out 2 new trap lines (50) in hope of picking up Hydromys - or anything. Collected another of the warbler-like birds on the wanted list. Found an overhang of earth + rocks + roots which swallows are using as a building site. Eggs in one nest. Begonias rampant along stream banks. Lush vegetation. Our hunter with aid of another boy + dog brought in 2 wallaby, 1 bobsonia, 1 bandicoot (1 with 2 tiny pouch young) + 1 cuscus. At 3:15 P.M. I measured the marsupials + my boys skinned out the wallabies before the early dark (raining again) closed down. Dog ripped a front leg off one wallaby + chewed up the 1 bandicoot a bit. However, all skulls except one are intact. We will have a busy morning for a change. The flying foxes came from a hole in a tree. Runner off early with mail. Len is drying a few Begonias for me; I plan to send the pressed flowers to Harold Rugg + Dr. Lord. Len collected first lizard for this camp, in tree that boys felled.
Top Camp, The moon is almost full tonight and Losima + I had a pleasant walk along the last trail. Owls, nightjar and all manner of frogs were calling. At one point on the track we heard a fruit bat. I surveyed into the bush and located a Cuscus which I collected. Our Hunter had a slow day finding only Lucius 4-2. Losima - The days preparation work was very tedious; one of the Bandicoots was so badly torn by thuda that it required over an hour of sewing. The Bandicoot + Dobsona made up without trouble but I had to check over both wallaby skins again. Len had a long morning collecting what he believes to be a new genus of palm. No luck at bat shooting tonight. Kim brought in a most beautiful green splotched tree frog. I am recording + collecting "herps" now that Geoff has left. Len is doing a few imago & religious Dumplings + pineapple fritters tonight. Nothing in our new trap lines in the valley stream.

Wed. Oct 21, 1953

Top Camp. Our Hunter turned up with another Cuscus + a Dobsona with a young one still attached by the umbilical cord. Another Immature 67 was captured in same tree. Nothing in traps. Found a VACCINIUM - lovely pink bell flowers - to which many birds are attracted (even a parrot was feeding there). Most of the day was spent skinning & preparing material & trying to dry out large skins. The sun was out most of the time. Clouds + a shower or rain came over at dinner time - just enough to spoil the hacking. Losima + I caught a few frogs including the one that makes the small piping - very small. And so to bed with an old N.Y. H. Jrb. Book Review section to read.

Thurs. Oct 22

Top Camp. Losima had his turn at catching a Rattus Hunter was in early - this time with his 6th wallaby. He gets cash for the first 2 and a drum of salt for the other. H. The dogs started this wallaby near the stream below us. Shot another scarlet + black Honey Eater - this time I made a good skin. Started my packing for our Saturday move. Skins not dry... Hope we have plenty of sun at next camp. Full moon tonight but a warm cotton mist was swirling in the trees soping our hacking. We collected frogs again. The honey eater was on the Vaccinium - First hornbill flew over camp today. New 7 months in Field.
Top Camp. Our last day at this camp. And as always happens on this trip, one of our best specimens came in at the last moment. Our river trapping paid off with a Hydromys in Isilele's line. A young 4; our first for the island. This is one of the 6 species recorded by Beck. Brings our species total to 20. Ken sent a note up with the carriers that he has shot a Vagita or lowland wallaby—our first with the exception of lower mandibles. Finished our packing and the boys have bound the poles on the carriers. 42 men and women showed up early this P.M. and are now camping under our 3 flys. Quite a full camp. We have issued them with a feed of rice + meat and they seem quite happy; also a few sticks of trade tobacco as a present. We are clouded in now (4:30 P.M.) just as long as we have no rain tomorrow! Ken also sent contents of radiogram from Buntungen—they will send boat to pick us up at Bolu Bolu on Nov. 14. All the people are now hunkered down around their smoke fires.

Top Camp to #2 Camp (c. 900 m — may be lower). Up at 5:30 A.M. to break camp and get our carrier loads organized. Sun came up with our usual good luck with weather prevailed once again. We left at 7:00 A.M. and arrived in camp a little before 10:00 A.M. We came along the long grass ridge and had beautiful views of the triple peaks. Took pictures of the carrier line. Ferguson mts. covered with thick cumulus. Leaving the spur we goat tracked down a new cut trail thru thick forest. Our camp seems to be in a transition zone between oak + rain forest. It is in a small cove with a little flat ground for our flys + tents. A good spring + well out of camp hillside. Ken had most of camp rigged including out tent. So we moved right in. We bought a stone axe from one of the natives. Ken tells me they are supposed to be made on Cape Vogel. Ken also bought a young sugar glider (Pteropus); it is very tame. An feed well on milk with sugar added. He won't let me have it for a specimen! While we were at top camp Ken had the good luck to find a boy of the old stone slings—the making is a lost art now. This is the only place in Papua that they were known to have been used. We paid our hunter 1000 dr. salt, 4 one £ notes, 100 sticks of tobacco + 2 used batteries. He was rich! But he will share it all with his Garuwata villagers. No poor men here in Papua. Ken had a pogonomyx waiting for me. Same type as top camp but larger + darker brown. Bats over clearing at dusk. 30 traps out.
# 2 CAMP (9:00 A.M.) Nothing in traps. Turn into wakes. A new species of *Pogonomy* (small scale, tiny white tail tip, heavy in cars, short hind foot + short ears. Wakanai, counselor tells me it lives in holes in ground. Kuni was out setting traps. This P.M. I found + chopped down another Pogonomy tree. 5 in the family. This time, counselor hunted this A.M. + brought in a guscus + a *Dobsonia* which we found in a rock crevice. My boys felled more trees in the clearing to open it up. For bat shooting. Not much however. Tonight, tracking for an hour but no sign of life. Except 1 continued. Good view of coast last few minutes out of camp. Kuni brought in a red-bellied snake. Hunter brought in a 4 1/2 ft. snake yesterday. Washed the salt off Ken's lowland wallaby + plum. Arsenic treated it -- in good shape. Skins are all drying well here. Nights are dry + just cool enough for comfort. Took in another notch in my belt today.

# 3 CAMP. 1:05 TRAPS -- not a nibble. Made up my 5 Pogonomy. A *Dobsonia* + a Parlanger. Getting short of traps. Sunny morning but high clouds. Most of P.M. Walked down trail + came out on grass spur. Lovely view of coast. Saw boat going south along coast. Spur is a small one parallel to the 2 main ridges that form our precipitous gorge. Virgin forest except at east or lower ends of ridges where villagers have burned + felled for gardens. Parrots + cockatoos flying + swooping in the gorge. Kuni had good collecting today — insects. Almost bat-shooting time — 5:45. Again, a few shots but none down. A bat that looks like the little sheath-tail at the Peria is the earliest flyer. Tracking along the ridge trail east + back along our spring-fed stream—nothing. To bed at 9.

# 4 CAMP. Up at 4:15 A.M. Used hack light for short time. Sawer at which I believe is *MacroGLOSSUS*. Fine bird chorus in valley. Back to bed at 5. Nothing in traps. So my boys + I cut trail down into the steep gorge. Steep but no obstacles. We came out at a lovely big swimming hole, overhung with an orange-sprayed *Denepremium*. We spent a sunny hour or so scrambling around stream bed. Collected a few plants for Ken. With trail open, we were back in camp in 10 minutes. Collected + honey-eaters + still flowering tree. Pickled.
ONE OF THEM & I WAS JUST IN THE MIDDLE OF MAKING A SKIN OF THE OTHER WHEN THE WAKONAI COUNSELOR, JACK, ARRIVED WITH 3 BATCHES OF MAIL! 5 LETTERS FROM KAY (23-27), DOROTHY #3, GARRY HARSED, RUS PETERSON, 3 FROM MOTHER. ALL WELL AT HOME. LETTER FROM AILSA DATED OCT. 14 GIVING ALL NEWS ABOUT GEOFF. HE IS STILL IN SERIOUS CONDITION - HAS NOT LEFT SAMARAI & WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DO SO WITHOUT A COMPANION. SHOWING SIGHT IMPROVEMENT. LEN HAS DECIDED TO TERMINATE EXPEDITION. KEN WILL LEAVE FOR MAPAMOIAW MILL TOMORROW WITH INTENTION OF TALKING TO SAMARAI BY RADIO & WILL SEND OFF CABLES TO HOME. WILL ASK BUNTINGS TO SEND BOAT TO PICK US UP AT BOLU BOLU ON NOV. 3. CARRYS: 1 TOMORROW & 2ND SATURDAY TO WAKONAI REST HOUSE. TO BOLU BOLU ON MONDAY. IF GEOFF HAS DIED OR IF THE OPINION IS THAT HE CANNOT TRAVEL IN THE NEAR FUTURE, LEN & I WILL SAIL FOR NORMANDY TO COLLECT THERE FOR A FEW WEEKS. WE HOPE THAT GEOFF CAN BE FLOWN HOME AS A STRETCHER CASE. IN THAT EVENT I WILL ACCOMPANY HIM. NO PLANS CAN BE MADE UNTIL WE GET LATEST NEWS FROM SAMARAI. MUCH CONFUSION AT HOME - GEOFF'S CONDITION & OUR WHEREABOUTS. KEN GAVE ME HIS 2 GOODENOUGH SLINGS & COLLECTION OF STONE IMPLEMENTS. THESE WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM. WROTE NOTE TO KAY & CROUGHT UP ON LATEST NEWS IN TIME & KAY'S CLIPPINGS. I HAD WORD THAT HIS FATHER HAD DIED IN WALES. GAVE HIM MY WATCH.

301 272 WED. OCT. 28, 1953

#2 CAMP. KEN LEFT EARLY THIS A.M. WITH NIKO. MY BOYS FOUND 2 BATCHES OF POGOMYS YESTERDAY P.M. - HOLES IN TREES. ALSO SHOT A RHINO-LOPHUS IN CLEARING LAST NIGHT. ISILELE BROUGHT IN THE REAL PRIZE, OUR FIRST MELOMYS FOR GOODENOUGH. DARK, MOLE-LIKE FUR. THIS MAKE 22 SPECIES FOR THE ISLAND. REORGANIZED FOOD SUPPLIES & PUT OUT EXCESS FOR FIRST CARRY TOMORROW. SPENT DAY MAKING UP SKINS. SPENT SHORT TIME OUT HUNTING. TO BED WITH TIME.

302 273 THURS. OCT. 29

#2 CAMP. SAILED FROM N.Y.C. 9 MONTHS AGO TODAY. THE 2 YOUNG BOYS I HAD ASKED TO LOOK IN THE SMALL CAVES ABOVE GARUWATA SHOWED UP TODAY WITH 3 HIPPOSIDEROS - NEW FOR THE ISLAND. NOW 23 SPECIES. I WAS SO PLEASED WITH THEIR WORK THAT I GAVE THEM 3 STICKS OF TOBACCO & 4 BOXES OF MATCHES & 3 SHEETS OF NEWSPAPER. I HAD BEEN AFTER THIS BAT FOR WEEKS. UP BEFORE DAWN TODAY. SAW THE LITTLE SHEATH-TAIL BUT DID NOT GET IT. FOUND A LOW BAT FLYWAY BEHIND COOK FLY. ACT LIKE HIPPOSIDEROS - FAST FLYERS. ALSO SAW
Dobsonia & Heard Nyctimene. Fixed up 16 carrier loads for
Wakonai. Carriers arrived about middle of A.M. & had a feed of rice.
Then with 5 sticks each + some newspaper they were off. Kim with
them to stack + cover in rest house. I shall never be able to see
newspaper being thrown away without thinking of the paper hungry
paruans. Made up bats, unpinned specimens - had a drying day - +
took off third skin cotton. Some of them are not too bad - my first
field skins. Poor bat shooting tonight but I did find a curious
“cut on a limb” near camp. We pack up tomorrow. Word from Ken
should reach us on Saturday. He should have reached Marapomwa.
Radio communication with Samarai today. Logimai's first cook to-
day - he made a good meat + potato pie for dinner.

203 Friday, Oct. 20, 1953

We received a note by runner from Ken today saying that
he has been in radio contact with Samarai. Geoff is improving;
he will be allowed to travel by air; Dusty has booked us south
on Thursday, Nov. 13. The Jessie is on her way to Normanby & will
be sent on to pick us up at Bolu Bolu early next week. Cables have
gone to U.S. from Len advising that we are terminating expedition.
Ken's trip to Marapomwa was uneventful. Traps came in today -
our Melomys remains a unique specimen. Spent day packing our
gear - we are ready for the early arrival tomorrow of carriers.
A few drops of rain - our first in this camp. Len will botanize
on the way down to Wakonai tomorrow. I may have a day or two
to tick up last minute specimens from the village. We are sorry
to miss our collecting on Normanby but there's always the future.
I can hardly believe the expedition is over. This is the end of our
32nd week in the field. Wrote long letter to Dr. & Mrs. Lord.

204 Sat. Oct. 21

CAMP to Wakonai (rest house). Up early to break camp + ready loads
for carriers. Sunny day as is our usual luck. Carriers on schedule +
we left camp at 8:15. Len botanized on way down. I came on ahead
with Wakonai councillor, Jack. From the burned over grass spur
(330 M) we came down the first 400 M in a hurry - slippery rocks.
Trick crossed the Utamodi River at a place of tumbling cascades - a lovely stream. Jack has a garden house on a 430 M
grass spur with a view of Ferguson Is. - Naututu Point. Rest house
at 150 M. Took many pictures on way down. Paid carriers off.
Ken had sent up 22 carriers from Beli Beli so I distributed loads to them and sent them off to our base at Bolubolu. Unfortunately I also gave them my ammo box which left me completely without shells since I had cleared out my collecting box. At dusk I found small bats flying over the river. I will send a runner down to Bolubolu tomorrow to bring back some shells. Bought a few lower mandibles + stone axes. Lovely cool night.

305 (276) Sun. Nov. 1, 1953

Wakonai. This is our last day in the field. Runner off early for Bolubolu. Took my camera up to the village. I wanted pictures of the stone platforms + the monoliths which lie on the perimeter. Took pictures also of various types of native houses. Paddy, the village policeman, strung out a woven pig net – they catch wallabies too – so that I could get pictures. Len collected along the river. The day turned hot so I helped Len with his plants during the afternoon. During bat shooting time I had most of our boys scattered over the stream bed ready to haul in any bats that I shot. My eye was in and Losima recovered 2 from the water. Both different: one, new for Goodenough, looks like a tiny Miniopterus; the other is Scotcinus. My "last night" luck held as usual! After dinner, like Ilik + I went jacking down on the grass plain out to the Viviani air strip. Did not hear or see a single wallaby. Home to find Afufuia carriers had arrived at Boy House. Councillor had a beautifully carved handle for a stone axe (figure of a man). Also had a few more mandibles. Injected my bats with rum.

306 (277) Mon. Nov. 2

Wakonai to Bolubolu. Up at dawn to complete our loads. Plenty of carriers. We were off at 6; hoping to beat the heat of the day. Len collected along the trail. At 7; the sun was high enough to beat down on us in the grass. Arrived at Bolubolu at 8:30 to find that the "Tessie" (one of Hunting's boats) had arrived. Ken had all our gear on the beach, and loading was under way. Had a feed of juicy pineapple to revive me. At Wakonai we gave out 2 drums of rice, the rest of our salt + one of the nylon flies. All the small villages have been very helpful to us. We sailed
For Mapamoiwa on Fergussom Island at 11: A. M. Arrived at Mapamoiwa about 2: P. M. Greeted by Charles Corbett (E. M. A. - European Medical Assistant) and invited to have dinner and spend the night. Ken went out to look for Eucalyptus trees but found only 11 trees (close relatives). On way over we stopped at Nututu plantation to pick up a 150 lb. pig that Ken had bought. Boys made a pen on deck. Shot a Scolenus at dusk. This turned out to be my only Fergussom Is. specimen since hunting produced only 1 tree frog. Made up the 2 bats shot last night at Wakanai. An excellent dinner. We stayed up until 1: A. M. talking. Charley has many patients at the station (and all the family comes to stay with them).

278 Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1953

Mapamoiwa to Samarai. Up at 4: A. M. so that we could sail soon after dawn. Good enough peaks clear. Wonderful views from the station. A long slow trip along the Fergussom & Normandy Island coasts. Tide was right at east cape and we made good time across Milne Bay. We stopped at Norm Evenets plantation to put the pig ashore. Arrived Samarai about 8: P. M. (after dark). B. P. was having a celebration to open their new store. I did not find Alisa & Dusty at home so after relaxing for a few minutes I went to hospital to visit Geoff. He is only a ghost of his former self - no use of right side & very little power of speech. Alisa comes up with Dusty every night to visit and read his mail. Tony Skewes & Russ Webster have taken turns shaving him. Home to tell Dusty about the trip detail and hear his plans for Geoff's trip home.

279 Wednesday, Nov. 4

Samarai. Worked on packing specimens & unpinning. Ken & I visited Geoff. Lionel gave me a tripod and a walking stick for Museum.

280 Thursday, Nov. 5

Samarai. Packing

281 Friday, Nov. 6

Samarai. Packing

282 Saturday, Nov. 7

Samarai. Justy & I went over to Burroughs boat yard in the Pixie.
The Betty Ann is on the ways. Sarida Island is a historic spot; on the hill just up from the boat yard the Meek homestead was built. Later the Eichhorn brothers lived there. All were British Museum collectors—chiefly birds, and insects.

Sun. Nov. 8, 1953

Samara. Justy, Ailsa + I set off on the "War" for Joini Island (Clem Rich has a plantation there). We went around to the south side + I went ashore with 2 of the locals who were to show me an overhang where several dozen human skulls had been deposited. Collected 1 skull, 2 lower jaws + some odd teeth. Also a pipe. All seemed quite recent. The place is wet + in path of a rain gully. Some bones are disintegrating. The Sau people (Eastern Papua) are said to bury their dead with the head above ground with a clay cooking pot over the head. No limb bones found with skulls. Went swimming (with plenty of sunburn cream). Ailsa dug up a tree for her new grounds. I collected a few shells for Miss Grobe. Swimming again at Ieca Ieca.

Mon. Nov. 9

Samara. Packing.

Tues. Nov. 10

Samara. Finished crateing

Wed. Nov. 11

Samara. All details for flight home arranged.

Thur. Nov. 12

Samara to Cairns by flying boat. Len came as far as Port Moresby. He is staying to finish up expedition business. Some little bureaucrat wired us that they would not give us an export permit unless we left a set of plants + zoological specimen duplicates in Port Moresby. It would take weeks. How silly can some people be? Customs also wants to charge us 10% of the value of material used in Papua (about A$60). And yet we are giving them collections worth far more! Turned into rain squalls outside of Cairns. Ambulance waiting. To General Hospital. After dinner at Hides Hotel I called up George Brookes (sons John + Edward). Had a pleasant evening.

Fri. Nov. 13

Samara to Brisbane to Sydney. George down to see Geoff.
Flew at 9 a.m. Smooth flight to new flying boat base outside of Brisbane. Don Vernon met me. Brought my suitcase and gave me a painting he had done in 1945. A good visit of an hour with him. Arrived Sydney just after dark - lights very beautiful. Met by ambulance to Heleine Private Hospital (Matron: Traper) at Randwick. Qantas Airways have been very cooperative in every aspect of the trip. Customs very decent - no trouble. Stayed at Oriental Hotel at Kings' Cross. Listened to the fight that all Australia was excited about - Bantamweight - Gaunt + Carroughers + latter (Australian) retained title.

318  [289] Sat. Nov. 14  47
Sydney - en route to Darwin. Shaved Geoff in a.m. He had a good quiet night. Down town to Angus + Robertson to buy a few books. Bought 2 kangaroo belts - 1 for Dery, a small sewing kit with beautiful scissors + a key case for it and a new wallet for myself. Took tram out to White City tennis courts to see the N.S.W. championships (Round before the 1/4 finals). 3 good matches: V. Seixas vs. D. Candy - Volleying + service - 3 close sets to Seixas; J. Bromwich vs. T. Traber - went 5 sets - if Bromwich were younger the match would have been his - Trabez was passed + lobbed + put thought time after time but Bromwich started netting in the last 2 sets (Bromwich first won this championship in 1937!); Rosewall vs. Wilderspin - Both men have beautiful ground strokes + good all-around games - W. has a severe service, as has Rosewall, for his size - W. had R. 2 sets to 1 + 3 all in 4th when I left - their play is too methodical to be very exciting. Billy Talbert + I. Ayre were playing the team which has as a member the 17 yr. old French Jr. champion. Bromwich + Quist, the old doubles team, did not look too good against 2 unknowns. Ambulance called for Geoff at 8:15 p.m. to Mascot Airport. We are traveling by Constellation to London. Our plane will be the first to stop at Bangkok. Geoff has a bunk but quarters are rather close. Take off at 9:30 p.m. Seats very comfortable. Sent cables to Miriam Tate + Kay.

319  290 Sun. Nov. 15  46
Arrived Darwin at 5:1 a.m. just before dawn. Busto a passenger accommodation station (shave, showers, beds, dining room) at Berrimah. Take off for Jakarta at 7:1 a.m. Singapore for
The night I took Geoff to hospital in an ambulance. He is in good hands with Sister Collins. Staying at Raffles Hotel which has been completely refurbished since the tap officers made a mess of it. Cold coming on so I went to bed at 5:10 P.M., woke at 11:10 P.M. Walked around the block, had a ginger beer & went back to bed again. Flying straight line courses is no way to see the country. Calm.

Mon. Nov. 16

Singapore - Bangkok - Calcutta. B. on river, C. on flood plain, on across India to Karachi. We will fly all night to reach Cairo at dawn.

Tues. Nov. 17

Cairo - Rome - London + off for U.S.A. at 8:30 P.M.