

554 W. 113th St.,
New York 25, N. Y.,
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TO: TRIPP Committee.

Fourth Report on Linguistic Field Project.

This report will cover the work done in Netherlands New Guinea, which is the only part of the project not covered in previous reports, and will then present a summary of the entire trip.

NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA

The nature of the problem in Netherlands New Guinea is indicated by the fact that this was the only area involved in the field project for which no tentative classification had been possible. Of probably somewhat more than forty Malayo-Polynesian languages in the territory, there was an appreciable amount of data on only four. The problem, then, was one of general coverage.

The Malayo-Polynesian languages occur in the following areas:

1. In the Hollandia District along the coast from Hollandia to somewhat east of the Mamberamo River, frequently on offshore islands.
2. In the Geelvink Bay District on most of the islands and on some parts of the coast.
3. In the Sorong (Bird's Head) District in the Radja Ampat Islands west of the mainland of New Guinea and, in one case, on the coast of the mainland.
4. In the Fakfak District, south of the Bird's Head.

I worked in Hollandia - where I was able to find informants for most of the languages of the Hollandia and Geelvink Bay Districts, in Fakfak, and in Sorong. I obtained more or less material on thirty-three Malayo-Polynesian languages and arrived at the following tentative classification:

1. Hollandia Group. Three languages near Hollandia.
2. Sarmi Group. Languages of the Sarmi area, west of Hollandia, most of them spoken on offshore islands.
3. Geelvink Bay Group.
4. Sorong Group.
5. Fakfak Group.

None of these groups appear to have any special relationship with any of the groups given in my published Tentative Classification. It remains an open question, however, whether or not groups 4 and 5, above, have relationships in the Moluccas area of the Republic of Indonesia.

The results from the Netherlands New Guinea part of the field project are in some ways the most gratifying of all. At least it may be said that the amount of tangible progress resulting from my field work is greater there than in any other area of comparable size.

THE ENTIRE FIELD PROJECT: SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The original plan for the field project, which I submitted on August 24, 1954, proposed work on the following problems:

1. The Santa Cruz Islands. There is very little published data on these languages, and they appear to be very aberrant from those of

- the nearby New Hebrides and Solomons. In the Tentative Classification they are put as a group, but with a question mark.
2. The Western Solomons, including western Isabel, Choiseul, and the New Georgia group. I had set up two groupings in the area, but data was sparse, and I thought more data might show that modifications were needed.
 3. The area around Wewak in the Sepik District of New Guinea. There is so little published data on these languages that they could only be mentioned, but not classified, in the Tentative Classification.
 4. The Western Islands, Manus District. There is data, but the languages appear aberrant.
 5. Netherlands New Guinea.

Before I left for the field it was suggested that I add New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands. The languages there appeared to be very aberrant and present some unusual phonological features for Melanesia. The purpose of my work there would be to check on the accuracy of the existing data, especially the orthography. I also hoped it might throw some light on the general problem of aberrant languages in Melanesia. Thus I added,

6. New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands.

- Information which I received after I left the United States led me to add three further problems,
7. New Britain - particularly the south-eastern part. I was already aware of two languages in this area which appeared rather aberrant, but which seemed to classify without undue difficulty. However, material brought back by Goodenough showed the situation to be more complicated than I had known.
 8. Morobe District. I learned from Capell that there were a number of languages in this area for which I had no data, and it developed that there was considerable divergence among them.
 9. Madang District. Again from Capell, I learned that there were further languages in this area as well.

I will take these problems in order and discuss what has been accomplished for each.

1. Santa Cruz. In Honiara I found informants for the Reef Islands language, for two languages of Ndeni, and for one language of Utupua. I obtained the full linguistic vocabulary for each. It seems probable that this gives a good coverage for the area with the exception of the island of Vanikoro. We have sent a questionnaire with a request for data on Vanikoro to the director of the Melanesian Mission school on Ugi.
2. Western Solomons. I obtained a full vocabulary for the language of western Isabel. The head of the Methodist Mission school near New Georgia had questionnaires completed by the schoolboys for 29 languages of the New Georgia, Choiseul and Bougainville areas. This gives a very good coverage.
3. Wewak. I made a short stop in Wewak and collected vocabularies for three of the languages. This will probably suffice.
4. Western Islands. I omitted this problem from the field project when I learned that Ted Schwartz had data on these languages.
5. Netherlands New Guinea. See first part of this report.
6. New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands. I took the full list for ten languages of New Caledonia and for the three Loyalty Island languages. I believe it will help in clarifying the situation.
7. New Britain. I got full vocabularies for three languages in the problem area, as well as shorter lists for two more.
8. Morobe District. I got short lists for nine languages and hope

to get more from questionnaires I left there.

9. Madang District. I got short lists for five languages.

The preceding statements deal with what were considered to be the most pressing problems. I did work on a number of other languages as well. The following is a geographical breakdown of the numbers of languages on which I seriously collected vocabulary;

New Caledonia and Loyalties	14
New Hebrides	5
British Solomons	7
Papua-New Guinea	30
Netherlands New Guinea	<u>35</u>
Total	97

There were a number of other languages for which I wrote short vocabularies, but where the vocabulary itself was not the major objective. Generally, this was done for the purpose of checking on the sound system. If these are added to the above figure, the total number of languages for which I collected some vocabulary from informants reaches 130.

Since the purpose of this trip was to collect data for the classification, the final evaluation of its results must await the completion of the classification. However, I may say now that my success in finding the informants that I needed in the time at my disposal was a continuing agreeable surprise. The overall results considerably surpass anything I would have thought it reasonable to expect.

George W. Grace.

Enclosed: financial report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

When I arrived in New York on March 20, 1956, there remained \$1550.00 of the \$8600.00 which I had received for the field trip. On May 1, 1956; after expenditures for storage, moving, living expenses and general costs of getting established; there remained \$764.14. I am holding this unexpended balance to cover the cost of assistance in working up the field material in the coming year.

Below is given an account of the larger expenditures. I have added estimates of some of the smaller ones as being of possible interest to persons planning research in the future.

TRANSPORTATION AND BAGGAGE

Round-the-world ticket	\$1906.87
[The original ticket cost \$1780.82, but expired. This, and extra cost for first class tickets on two legs of the return flight - necessary in order to maintain schedules - explain the increase].	
Excess baggage and freight for round-the-world trip	381.07
Local flights	608.07
[Specifically, Sydney-Noumea-Sydney; Hollandia-Wewak-Kavieng-Rabaul-Honiara-Vella Lavella-Rabaul-Lae-Moresby-Lae-Goroka-Madang-Hollandia-Biak-Fakfak; Sorong-Hollandia-Biak].	
Excess baggage on local flights.....	74.44
Local surface [Fakfak-Sorong].....	22.50
Total transportation and baggage	\$2992.95

EQUIPMENT

Tape recorder....	\$337.36
Misc. (estimated).....	200.00
total	\$537.36

INFORMANTS (estimated)¹.....\$150.00

Total field expenditures accounted for	\$3680.31
Balance remaining on return from field	\$1550.00
Total accounted for	\$5230.31

Total grants received	\$8600.00
Total accounted for	\$5230.31
Living expenses ²	\$3369.69

The figure labeled "living expenses" actually includes some small items which do not fit into any of the major categories above. At the figure given, living expenses amounted to about \$7.50 per day.

1. Gifts to informants were not a large item except in New Caledonia, where I gave approximately fr.100 (\$1.60) per day. Distribution of cigarettes and tobacco was usually sufficient elsewhere.

2. Approximate hotel tariffs were,
 Noumea \$4.00/da. with no meals (this is one of several hotels only).
 Honiara \$3.30/da. with full board.
 Papua-New Guinea \$5.50/da. with full board.
 Netherlands New Guinea \$4.10/da. with full board. This is based on government rates, which applied to me. In any case tariffs vary considerably here.