FIELD OFFICERS REPORT ON JOB NO. 67/6

BATHURST - MELVILLE ISLANDS

On May 22nd 1967 a party of 5 men (T/O W. Clark, T/A L. Edwards, 1/H Chairman W. Whellum, plus 2 chainmen, 2 vehicles (4 x 4) plus 1 trailer) were boarded a charter barge for transportation to Bathurst and Melville Islands.

T/A L. Edwards, 1 chainman plus 1 vehicle were offloaded on Bathurst Island approx 1000 hours on 23rd May.

The remainder of the party and equipment were then offloaded at "Cookle Point" on Melville Island just south of mouth of Takamprimili Creek. S.S.F. and S.T.O. were also in this party, having flown to Bathurst Island.

T/A L. Edwards carried out a pipeline traverse from Tiemi Creek to Mission Hill, selected a site there for a 10,000 gallon tank, then continued traverse on a line previously surveyed by Department of Works, including stadia detail survey of Tiemi Creek at pumping site this job occupied 5 days. This party then joined Melville Island party to work on Takamprimili Dam site cross-section was cleared and traversed. R. Eastick replaced W. Clark for 2 weeks, from May 25th to June 9th.

T/O W. Clark rejoined party camped at Tarakumbi Falls on Friday, June 16th.

T/A L. Edwards had completed a chain and compass survey from Tarakumbi Falls to Concr. Monument at Paru Village, having transferred R.L. of D.C.A. MSL on Bathurst Island Airstrip.

This was levelled ONE WAY ONLY. A chain and compass, and level survey from Tarakumbi S.M. to Snake Bay Airstrip on Bathurst Island Datum cross section at recorder on Tarakumbi. With this unclosed level it showed a difference in R.L. to Snake Bay MSL datum of only approx. 1.50'.

A series of levels of Snake Bay water storage tanks was carried out with T.B.M.'s at foot of tanks, plus 3 spears of present water supply.

A spear closer to the Settlement once used for Domestic Supply has been condemned, and is now used only for the garden and agricultural purposes.

Work carried out at Tarakumbi

Cross section of proposed Weir site & recorder.
S.M. at site. B.M. on main road.

At Garden Point

Selection of 2 weir sites (ref L/3 67/6 6.7.8)
Installing B.M at each site, plus a BM at recorder.
A chain and compass survey from B.M. BM3 on airstrip, with cross sections at each site.
Levelling of Rodr. & gauge plates tied in to DCA datum.
Chain, compass and level traverse from DCA EM 2 (near centre of airstrip) to Mission water storage tanks.

No construction or surveying problems, apart from lightly scattered ironstone rocks in area of 2 weir sites.

A survey was made from Paru Road (ref. diag) to a sight at JCTN on Creek no. 2. (ref Map 3-1/60 1:50,000).

From Creek 2 to Creek 1 was chained and levelled with Em installed at each crossing (refer EM list).

A tie-up from Creek 1 to Takamprimili was carried out by compass, and until a plot is made the exact location of proposed weir site is only vague.

The area of approx. 3 km between Creek 1 and Takamprimili is all Gilgas, erosion and tributaries, which would seem a most improbable pipe-line area, and to skirt these, if it is possible, would extend the distance beyond feasibility.

Sounding with echo sounder, using RDS for stadia distance was carried out across Apelau St. at different W/L stages.

Surface velocities were also taken with OTT current meter at various incoming and outgoing tide levels.

Full party returned by Barge to Darwin on Friday, 24th July 1967.

W.P. CLARK
Technical Officer