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MIRI-BINTULU REGIONAL PLANNING STUDY

FOR

THE GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA

AND

THE STATE OF SARAWAK

PROGRESS REPORT

No. 2

AUGUST 1972

MIRI-BINTULU REGIONAL PLANNING STUDY
FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA & THE STATE OF SARAWAK
PROGRESS REPORT NO. 2

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P R E F A C E

Progress Report No. 2

June 16th to July 31st 1972

This Progress Report covers a period of only one and a half months instead of two months. The reason is that it is thought more suitable to issue this and successive reports early in the appropriate month so as to allow Steering Committee members a reasonable time to study the reports before meetings, which it was agreed, should be held about mid-month. In this way it will be possible to discuss each report close to the period to which it refers.

The Liaison Officer, Kuching, agreed with this timing of report presentation.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

1. STAFFING - additional to Report No. 1.

<u>Position and Names</u>	<u>Chargeable Date</u>
15. C. Sather, Sociologist	28.7.72 -
C.1 H. S. Morris, Sociologist	21.7.72 -
<u>Amendment to Report No. 1</u>	
16. J. Stowell, Hydrologist should read	30.5.72 - 24.6.72
<u>Government Counterparts</u>	
Mr. Hamzah Abd. Drahman, Economist, joined the Study on 15.7.72.	

2. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- a) Offices: Airconditioning completed in June.
- b) Transport: No change.
- c) Equipment: Satisfactory.
- d) Malaysian Staff: Temporary Enumerators were employed on the Traffic Census between 25th and 28th July.
- e) Funds: The second deposit (part) of local funds was received in July.
- f) Accounts: The second Statement of Account was submitted on the due date.
- g) The Consultants record their appreciation of the cooperation and assistance afforded them by the Police and Government Departments in their conduct of the Origin And Destination Traffic Census held in July.

3. SCHEDULE OF WORK

The programme of work for the next report period is as set out in progress chart at cover.

4. SURVEY, MAPS AND REPORTS

The negatives of the 1:250,000 scale maps for the Study Area have been received as requested from the Land and Survey Office in Kuching. There have been out and reassembled to form a single base map for the Study Area. This will constitute the base map for the final mapping of the Zonation Plan.

P R O G R E S S

SECTION A: NATURAL RESOURCE STUDIES

1. Soils

Aerial Photo-Interpretation

The systematic aerial photo-interpretation of the Study Area was completed by the end of June. The total area covered was 3.5 million acres. Compilation on the 1:25,000 scale print laydowns is in progress and it is expected that reduction to 1:50,000 scale could be started in early August. The compilation of 1:25,000 scale would then be completed.

The accuracy of mapping and the rate of progress for the period under review were reduced due to the following factors:-

- a) Differences in age of photography used for aerial photo-interpretation and mosaicing.
- b) Scale difference between individual print laydowns and between photographs and print laydowns.

A limited number of these problems could be eliminated by using different aerial photographs which are held by the Land and Survey Department at Miri.

Mr. Lim Chin Pang, Soil Surveyor North Sarawak, was off project strength for July.

2. Agriculture and Livestock

The Senior Agriculturist has continued to familiarise himself with the existing agriculture and conditions in the Study Area. Field tours have been carried out and investigatory discussions held. A four-day tour was made into the Baram, Apoh and Tutoh river areas with the Divisional Agricultural Officer. Also a two-day trip, with the Bintulu District Assistant Agricultural Officer, was made into an area in the middle reaches of the Kemena river. This area, of about 10,000 acres, has been selected by the Agricultural Department as a possible site for a Cattle Breeding Station. Probably the most valuable reconnaissance trips of all were three

long flights in a helicopter. These trips, which together covered the majority of the Study Area, were made in conjunction with other members of the team. From the flights it has been possible to form an excellent general picture of the whole area. Several meetings with senior members of the Divisional Agricultural Department resulted in the production of some papers summarising the organisation and activities of the Department with particular reference to the Fourth Division.

Together with the Agricultural Economist, much thought has been given to the possibility of starting a beef industry in the Study Area. It would appear desirable to start such an industry but there are several aspects of major importance about which Government needs to make decisions before an organised move can be made to initiate the industry. For this reason, a short paper has been written for presentation at the next Steering Committee meeting. In the paper some decisions, from the Steering Committee, are asked for and the suggestion is made that a small working group, consisting of Consultants and Committee members, be set up to examine various aspects of the subject and make recommendations to the Steering Committee.

The decisions required from the Steering Committee concern the aspects of:-

- a) The composition of the working group;
- b) Guidance on the objective of the initial scheme; whether profitability, research or training is to be the major objective;
- c) Guidance on the management of the scheme; by Government, by private enterprise or by a quasi-government organisation;
- d) The degree of urgency and priority afforded by Government to this scheme.

The first tasks of the working group would be to consider such problems as:-

- a) The justification for starting a beef industry;
- b) The siting of the initial scheme;
- c) Initiation of the scheme;

- d) Ways of overcoming the lack of precise knowledge about animal husbandry, pasture management and diseases in Sarawak;
- e) Target dates for starting any scheme;
- f) The ultimate aim of the beef industry.

Two other possible agricultural enterprises, besides the obvious ones of oil palm, rubber and cocoa, have been preliminarily studied. These are: the small scale production of unrefined sugar, and the production of citrus juice concentrate, particularly orange and lime.

3. Agricultural Economics

The collection of basic data was continued throughout the period. Analysis of data has commenced and internal working papers on the future demand for rice, beef, palm oil products, rubber and cocoa have been produced. As mentioned in the previous section further work has been carried out on the possibilities for starting a beef industry and discussions were held with the Economics Section and the Senior Veterinary Officer on the subject.

Evaluation of demand and production possibilities for other crops is proceeding according to schedule.

Marketing studies are being undertaken in conjunction with the Agricultural Counterpart Officer to examine the marketing chain in selected important commodities. These will continue over the next period.

Examination of certain production possibilities has commenced with emphasis on further processing of agricultural products and possible complementary relationships between various areas and sectors.

4. Forestry

Forest boundaries on licence maps lent by the Miri and Bintulu Section Forest Officers have been transferred to the 1:50,000 Sheets, in part preparation of the Study Area Map. Two areas with forest encumbrance totalling some 130,000 acres and of similar size have been photo-interpreted as possible contenders for inclusion in the

Semi-Detailed Master Plan Area of 250,000 acres when this is selected. In one of these, (exploited but still with logging potential) two random samples have been completed to familiarise staff and labour with the new point sampling technique. Whether further inventory will be justified in such forest is still uncertain and depends on assessment of the block closing reports.

5. Mining

The study of the mining industry within the Study Area has been continued and information on this sector has been obtained from the Department of Land and Survey in Miri and the Administrative Officers in Districts with mining potentialities.

Sarawak Shell Berhad is the only major company operating and some information has been obtained from this firm concerning a possible future liquified natural gas plant likely to be constructed within the Study Area. However, in general, detailed information concerning the oil and gas production is not available to the Consultants.

6. Water Resources

The hydrologist returned to the United Kingdom in June after collecting statistics and other relevant information on the Study Area. Preparations have been made for the establishment of gauging and meteorological stations, and orders placed for the necessary equipment.

SECTION B: POPULATION, PRODUCTION, ETC.

1. Population and Labour

The Department of Statistics in Kuching has forwarded to us the following data from the 1970 population census on the numbers of:-

- a) Vacant and occupied living quarters;
- b) Households;
- c) Agricultural households;
- d) Males and females.

The data, which are now being processed, cover all census circles and all urban enumeration blocks in the Study Area.

The Statistical Department in Kuala Lumpur has been requested in a letter early in July to supply more comprehensive and extensive census data concerning the Study Area and the whole of Sarawak. As yet there has been no answer to this letter. The data asked for will be of particular importance to the demographic and sociological studies.

2. Production and Trade

a) Production

The only information available on the production and economy of the manufacturing and construction industries is the published results of surveys for the years prior to 1969. This is a cause for some concern to the Consultants as the data are not sufficiently detailed for planning purposes. Until now any attempt to obtain detailed and recent statistics have not been successful. The vital importance of specific, up-to-date information on these industries was first discussed early in May of this year at meetings with the Economic Planning Unit and the Department of Statistics in Kuala Lumpur and later in May and June with the State Financial Secretary, Kuching and Department of Statistics, Kuching. Later again when information was still not forthcoming the subject was raised by the Consultants in telephone calls and letters to these organisations. So long as no detailed and up-to-date statistics are available to us, very little progress will be possible in the investigation of these sectors.

b) Trade

The transport survey on July 26th and 27th will provide the necessary statistics to construct a reliable trade/transport model. Furthermore a special trade survey has been initiated, which should supply supplementary information on the major trade patterns in the Fourth Division.

3. Income and Consumption

The study of income and consumption has not progressed well because the main source of information is the Department of Statistics in Kuching. This means that the problems which have been touched on in meetings, phone calls and correspondence concerning basic data for the production sector also applies to this sector. Furthermore, details of the composition of the Sarawak Gross National Product which have been worked out by EPU in Kuala Lumpur, were requested on 20th June but no reply has yet been received.

SECTION C: TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Transport Supply and Demand

During the week July 24th to 30th an Origin-Destination Survey was carried out covering all modes of transport on the roads, the rivers and along the coast in the Study Area. Air traffic was not specifically included because comprehensive statistics are available from the Department of Civil Aviation, Kuching. The location of the main survey stations is shown on the map.

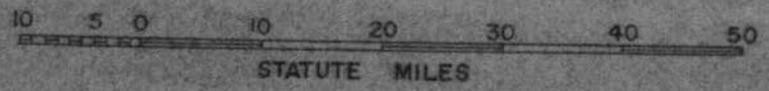
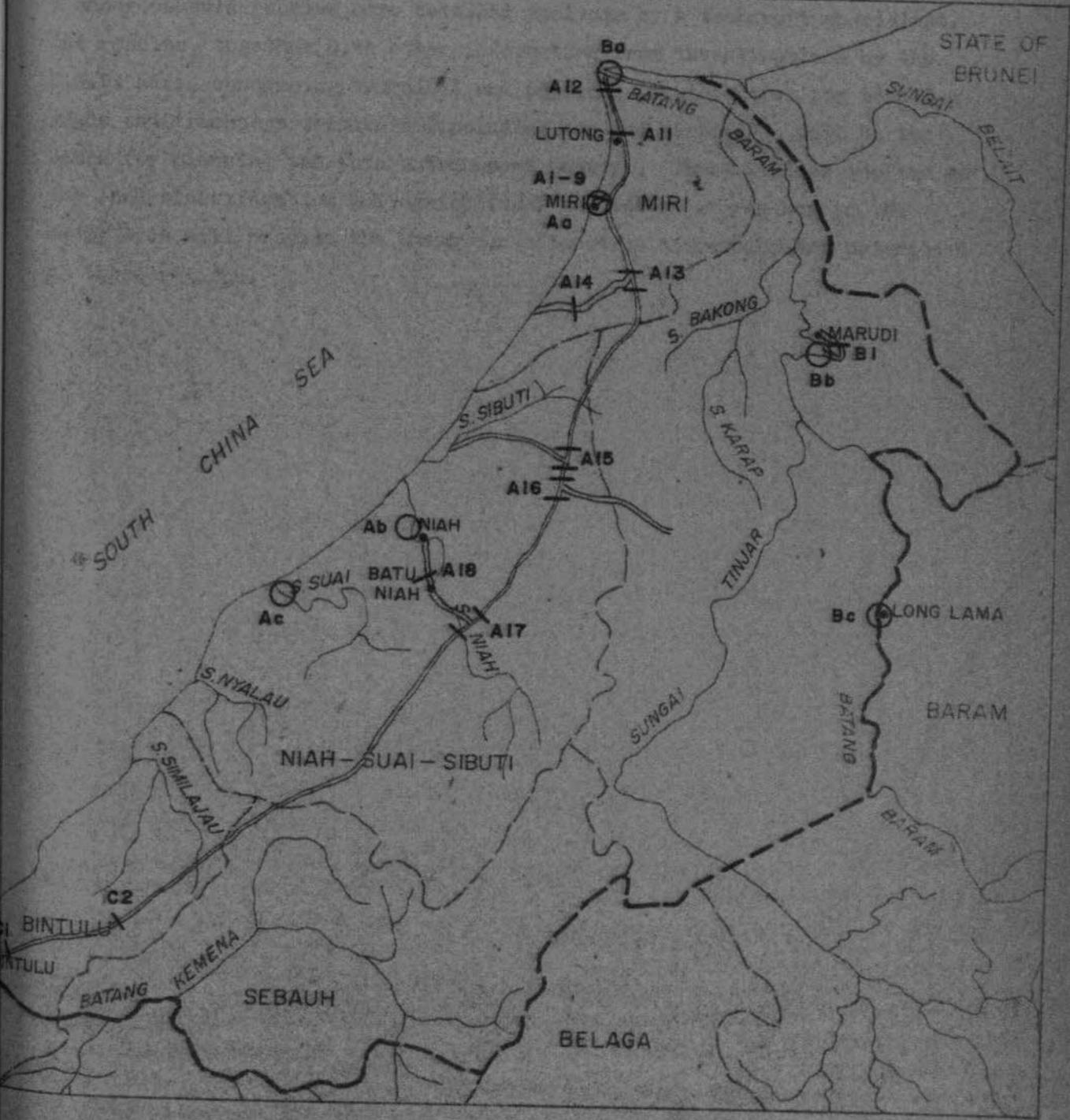
The survey consisted of the following items:-

- a) An Interrogation Survey of all road traffic during the days 26th and 27th of July (18 hours each day) at 18 census stations;
- b) A similar survey on the same days for 16 hours each day at 9 river census stations;
- c) A Volume Survey on all buses in the Miri area during the same period;
- d) An Interrogation Survey of all taxis in the Miri area on the same days;
- e) A School Traffic Survey for all schools in the urban areas of Miri, Marudi and Bintulu;
- f) A Survey of large vessels for the week 24th to 30th June in the ports of Miri, Kuala Baram, Marudi and Bintulu.

The operation was carried out with the assistance of the Study Liaison Officer in Miri and several government departments, particularly the Police, the Customs and the Public Works. Students from the Tanjong Lobang College acted as enumerators while private and public transport companies and the schools also co-operated. The number of Consultant staff, policemen and enumerators involved totalled about 250. Throughout the census period vehicles and vessels passing the census stations were stopped and notes were recorded concerning the origin, the destination and the purpose of the journey as well as about the goods and passengers. Between 10,000 and 15,000 questionnaires were completed.

The data collected, after preliminary processing by the Regional

LOCATION OF ORIGIN - DESTINATION SURVEY STATIONS



- | | | | |
|---------|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| ——— | PROJECT BOUNDARY | ○ | RIVER CENSUS (Ad) |
| - - - - | DISTRICT BOUNDARY | ● | ROAD CENSUS (A1) |
| BINTULU | SUB-DISTRICT NAMES | == | ROADS |

Planner, should receive more detailed analysis by a transport specialist. The results, together with other information from investigations by the P.W.D. Miri, concerning technical and physical possibilities for locating roads and transport terminals (including sea and airports), will be the basis for planning the future transport network. These studies applied to the land classification and agricultural assessment of regions in the Study Area will provide the basis for allocation of development priorities to those regions.

SECTION D: SETTLEMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

1. Public Finance and Administration

The arrival of the counterpart Mr. Hamzah Abd. Drahman to the General Economist in July has made it possible to continue the research in this field.

2. Settlements and Infrastructure

Work has started on investigations into the existing settlement pattern in the Study Area and information has been gathered from maps and statistical records. In this connection, a paper was prepared on 'subjects for investigation'. Followed by a note on information requested from the various sources responsible.

As a framework for these investigations, the Study Area was divided into data acquisition units as shown on the map. A data acquisition proforma has been devised which, when completed, will provide similar information for each unit. It is proposed to present the basic information collected on a series of maps of the Study Area.

Information has also been obtained on public services and utilities and presented on draft maps prepared at 1:250,000 scale. The work has included studies of the distribution and classification of settlements, the distribution of population, cultivated areas (including present land use) and the communication network.

In addition, a detailed exercise has been carried out on the physical planning aspects of one sub-unit, Sibuti, which is situated within the major data acquisition unit 3, the coastal area. The analysis was based on existing compiled information and several field trips to the area, and will form a guideline for further analyses of data for other units.

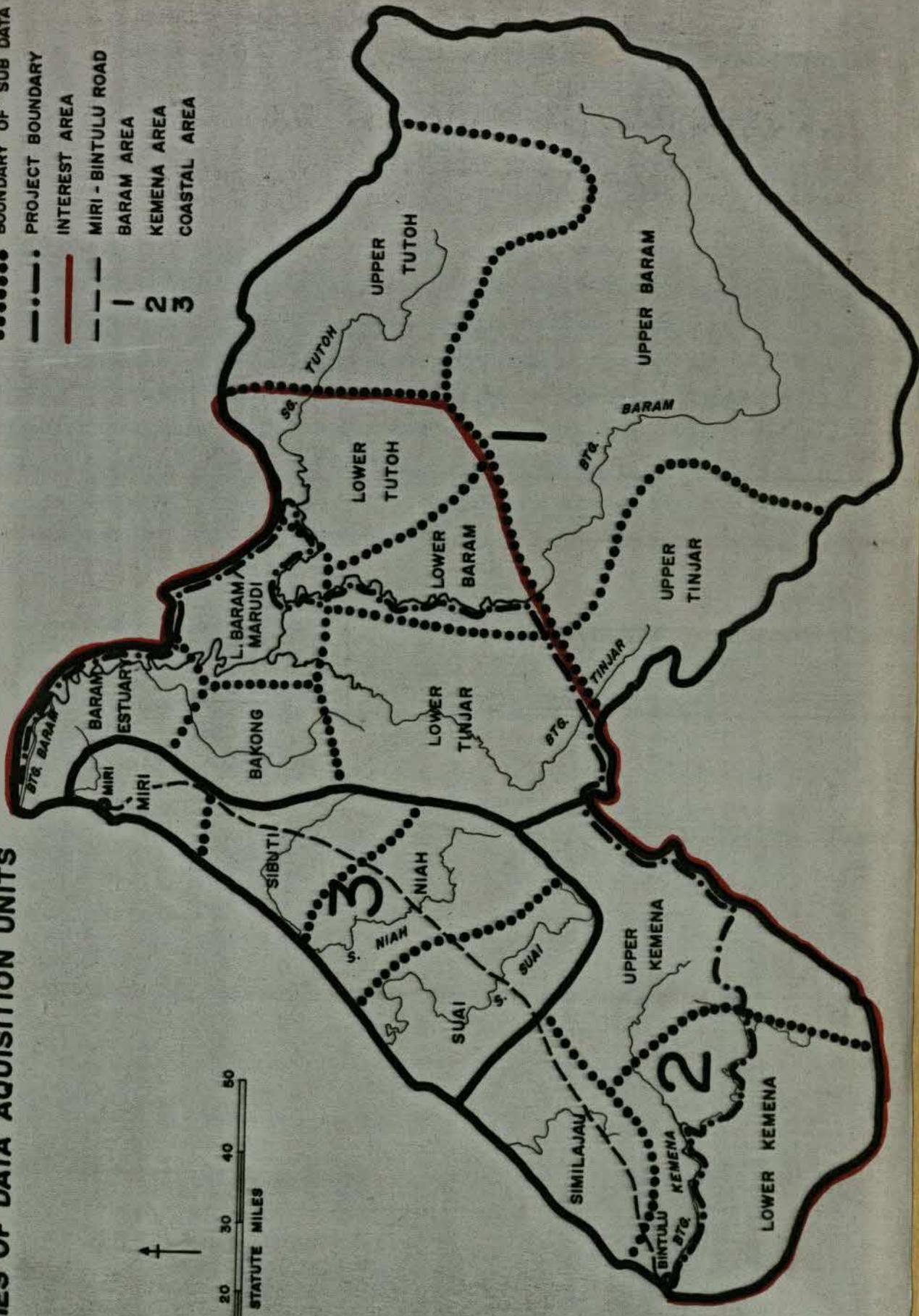
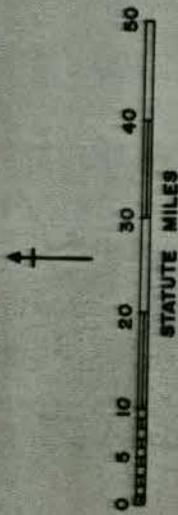
Major effort is at present being placed on a paper on urbanization in general, primarily in the State setting with reference to the Fourth Division and including aspects of the distribution of the urban and rural population. Field trips have been made to the coastal area, Marudi and the Baram river basin. An air reconnaissance of much of the Study Area

PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS

BOUNDARIES OF DATA ACQUISITION UNITS

LEGEND

- BOUNDARY OF MAJOR DATA UNITS
- BOUNDARY OF SUB DATA UNITS
- · - · PROJECT BOUNDARY
- INTEREST AREA
- MIRI - BINTULU ROAD
- 1 BARAM AREA
- 2 KEMENA AREA
- 3 COASTAL AREA



was also undertaken in order to observe the important settlements.

3. Sociological Aspects

The Consultant Sociologist has spent his short time here in familiarising himself with the programme of work in order to co-ordinate the sociological work with that of other disciplines. In addition, he has begun to assemble material on the populations of the First, Second, Third and Fourth Divisions. After evaluation, this data will be used for planning visits to different parts of the country in order to investigate which ethnic groups are likely to supply future settlers and how they may best be integrated in the areas of development.

/al

31.7.72

PLAN OF OPERATIONS & MONTHLY PROGRESS CHART

MIRI - BINTULU REGIONAL PLANNING STUDY

STUDY HEAD	1972												1973			
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	
SOILS		APL PROJECT AREA - 3.5 MILLION ACRES		SOIL CHECKS	MAPPING	REPORT	RENTIS SAMPLE AREAS	CUTTING		SURVEY SCHEMATA	350,000 ACRES					
MINERALS				DATA COLLECTION				FORECASTS COSTS & REVENUE	REPORT							
AGRICULTURE		INVESTIGATE EXISTING AGRICULTURE		EVALUATE POSSIBLE CROP & LIVESTOCK PROJECTS											SELECT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FOR DIFFERENT ENTERPRISES	
		APL SELECTED FORESTS		MAPS FOREST ENCUMBRANCES												
AGRICULTURE				COLLECT DEMAND STUDIES COSTS & PRICES				PHASING & EVALUATION OF AGRICULTURAL PROPOSALS							OUTLINED PRICE, COST, DEMAND, INPUT, OUTPUT, DATA	
FISHERIES								INITIAL FISHERY INVENTORY								
FORESTS		APL SELECTED FORESTS		MAPS FOREST ENCUMBRANCES											INVENTORY & TALLY LAND CHECKING, ETC	
HYDROLOGY				COLLECT HYDROLOGICAL DATA											ESTABLISHMENT OF GAUGING STATION HYDRO. & WATER CATCHMENT AREAS	
LAND USE & TENURE															EXISTING LAND USE, RIGHTS OF LAND & LAND TENURE	
REGIONAL ECONOMIC MODEL															MODEL CONSTRUCTION OPTIMIZATION & MODEL WORK	
POPULATION & LABOUR															DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSES FORECASTS REPORT REPORT	
PRODUCTION & TRADE															DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSES FORECASTS & UNIT COSTS REPORT	
INCOME & CONSUMPTION															DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSES REPORT RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ALLOCATION REPORT	
TRANSPORT															DATA COLLECTION ORIGIN, DESTINATION, SURVEY INFRASTRUCTURE & VEHICLES ACCESS & COSTS FORECASTS, REQUIREMENTS & COSTS REPORT	
PUBLIC FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION															DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSES FUTURE REVENUES & EXPENDITURES ADMINISTRATIVE & TAX SYSTEM	
SETTLEMENTS & INFRASTRUCTURE															DATA COLLECTION SETTLEMENTS & PUBLIC SERVICE STANDARDS & HOUSING UNIT COSTS REPORT FUTURE SETTLEMENTS SERVICE STANDARDS & HOUSING - COSTS REPORT	
SOCIOLOGY															DATA COLLECTION ANALYSES REPORT	
MAPS															PREPARE 250,000 BASE MAP COMPILATION OF ZONATION PLAN DATA P.A.R. DRAW Z.P. PRINT ADD COLOUR PERSPECTIVE PLAN REPORT DRAWINGS	
REPORTS															FIRST DRAFTS ZONATION PLAN FINAL DRAFTS PLAN REPRODUCTION FIRST DRAFTS FINAL DRAFTS PERSPECTIVE PLAN	
PROGRESS REPORTS & CONSULTATIONS															SC1 K PR1 PR2 SC2 M PR3 SC3 K PR4 SC4 M	

▨ IN HAND

▣ DELAYED

PR - PROGRESS REPORT

SC - STEERING COMMITTEE