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THE MINERAL RESOURCES AND MINING INDUSTRY OF THE MANDATED TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

by

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DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SHIPPING.

MINERAL RESOURCES SURVEY BRANCH.

THE MINERAL RESOURCES AND MINING INDUSTRY OF THE MANDATED TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA.

Report No. 1943/35.

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GOLD.

Historical.

Mining in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea has, up to the present, been almost entirely confined to the winning of gold, mostly from alluvial deposits. Prior to the last war Australian prospectors crossed the border, without the knowledge of the German authorities, and worked some of the richer patches along the Waria and Ono Rivers, near the Papuan Border. This production has, no doubt, been included in the records of the nearby Gira Goldfields in Papua. The history of gold mining proper in New Guinea dates from 1922 when William (Shark-eye) Park penetrated the Bulolo Valley and found payable gold at the mouth of Koranga Creek, three miles north-north-west of the present site of Wau. Owing mainly to difficulties of transport the progress of the field was slow for several years and only a few miners were getting profitable returns until 1926 when Royal and Glasson made their way up the side of the Edie Creek gorge and discovered the phenomenally rich alluvials in the comparatively flat bed of the creek above the gorge. A rush followed, aerodromes were built and plane transport superseded the long arduous haul by native carriers from the coast, and the dredging areas of the Bulolo and Watut Rivers were pegged. Prospectors went farther afield and opened up claims along both rivers and their tributaries over a distance of fifty miles or more, from the head of the Watut almost to Maralinan, when the river opens out onto wide flats prior to joining the Markham. Capital was interested, the Bulolo Valley alluvials were bored, more aerodromes cleared and plane transport developed sufficiently to enable all the necessary parts for the construction of large dredges to be flown in. The first two dredges of the Bulolo Gold Dredging Company commenced operations in 1932 and the fleet was gradually increased until by 1940 eight dredges, operated by three hydro-electric powerhouses were in operation. Concurrently with the development of the placer ground, the smaller alluvial properties turned more and more to the use of large scale sluicing methods, water races were built and hydraulic sluicing, supplemented where necessary by the use of elevators, was widely employed, particularly by New Guinea Goldfields Limited, Koranga Gold Sluicing Limited and many other Companies and private claim and lease-holders. Outside the Bulolo and Watut Valleys, payable gold was found just over the coastal divide in Black Cat Creek and the Bitoi River, near Salamaua itself at Kela, in tributaries of the Wampit and Waim Rivers, in the headwaters of the Ramu and Purari rivers and near Mount Hagen. In 1935 the Sepik goldfield, embracing a large area southwest of Wewak, was opened up. In practically every case, transport was entirely by aeroplane with costs varying from £10 per ton up to about £100 per ton in the case of inland areas such as Mount Hagen, and the subsequent high cost of supplies offset to some extent the advantages of cheap native labour.

The goldfields proclaimed in the Mandated Territory are as follows:-

Morobe goldfield. Proclaimed February, 1923, boundaries amended 1930 and 1933; Now comprises practically all the area south of the Markham River and includes the headwaters of the Ramu River.

% of Total 1939-40	23.3	66.6	10.1
% of Total 1940 - 41	24.8	67.8	7.4
% of Total to 30/6/41)	34.5	55.7	9.8

Dredging.

Three separate areas were being operated by Bulolo Gold Dredging Limited until January, 1942. The principal one, covering the largest area, and containing the deepest ground (up to 225 feet) extended from the bottom end of the Bulolo gorge, near the Bulolo powerhouse, down to three miles below Bulolo township, approximately ten miles in length and nearly 2½ miles wide at the widest portion. At this point another smaller gorge limits dredge operations and the next area extends for four miles down to the Watut junction, up the Watut for two miles and below the junction through the rich Bulwa flats for 5½ miles to below the mouth of the Baiune Creek. The third area is higher up the Bulolo Valley, from the mouth of Koranga Creek back up the river to the mouths of Sandy and Wau Creeks.

During 1941 the Company was in full production at the rate of 180,000 fine ounces per year and it was considered that the reserves were sufficient to last 10-15 years, though it might not be possible to keep all eight dredges working for the full period. The total amount yet to be recovered is perhaps 2,000,000 ounces fine gold. Average value of the ground worked during 1939-40 was a little over 2/- per cubic yard. More exact figures for reserves proved by drilling could doubtless be obtained from the Sydney office of Bulolo Gold Dredging Limited.

Alluvial.

Alluvial mining apart from dredging has been carried on along the Bulolo and Watut Rivers and their numerous tributaries, including Kodiak Creek, Quombo Creek, Crystal Creek, Binatang Creek, Little Wau Creek, Flat Creek, Koranga and Namie Creeks, Edie, Merri and Slate Creeks, Webiak Creek, Sandy Creek, Poverty Creek, and Kulolo Creek flowing into the Bulolo; Hidden Valley Creek, Kapoul Creek, Nauti Creek, Iroa Creek, Surprise Creek, Roaring Creek, Reedy's Creek, Subroar Creek and Bitap Creek flowing into the Watut; the Black Cat Creek and the Bitoi River; in the Waim River; In Wongonbungor Creek, flowing into the Wampit River; at Kela near Salamaua; on the Waria and Ono Rivers; near Kaiapit, Upper Markham River; in Yonki Creek, Biakira Creek, Efontera, Ornapinka, Barola Creeks, all tributaries of the Upper Ramu; on the Upper Dunantina, between Kainantu and Bena-bena; and on Ewunga and Gwinmong Creeks near Mount Hagen. In the Sepik Goldfield the principal streams were the Screw and the Parchee Rivers, and the headwaters of the Atob and Anumb Rivers, but gold has been won from many other streams flowing from either side of the central divide which separates the streams flowing to the sea from those flowing into the Sepik River. A small quantity of alluvial gold has been won on the Tugi Tugi field, Tatau Island, in the Tabar Group east of New Ireland, and a very small quantity from the Kupei area, west of Kieta, on Boungainville Island.

The principal source of the gold of the Morobe district is the area at the head of Edie Creek, where it occurs as small rich stringers throughout an area of hydrothermally altered schist - known as "mudstone" - adjacent to intrusives of quartz porphyry, also hydrothermally altered and also carrying gold. These porphyries are of late Tertiary age and the gold associated with them is only 500-600 fine, but several other earlier porphyries

Kieta goldfield. Proclaimed October, 1924; A roughly triangular area including the township of Kieta and extending along the coast from latitude 6°S to 6°21'S and inland to longitude 155°20'.

Sepik goldfield. Proclaimed May, 1937; Includes nearly all of the area between the Sepik River and the sea, except a small area of uncontrolled territory in the southwest corner.

The following provisional goldfields, each of 1 square mile, have also been declared:-

Upper Ramu: Proclaimed January, 1930, revoked March, 1933, and included in the Morobe goldfield.

Upper Purari: Proclaimed January, 1933.

Talele, New Britain; near Cape Lambert; Proclaimed June, 1933.

Tugi Tugi, Tatau Island, Tabar Group, off the east coast of New Ireland; Proclaimed June, 1934.

The gold mining operations are conveniently divided into three classes:- Dredging (Bulolo Gold Dredging Limited); Alluvial workings apart from dredging; and Lode mining. The following table shows how the production up to the end of June, 1941, has been distributed between the three classes.

TABLE 1.

GOLD PRODUCTION OF THE MOROBE DISTRICT.

Year	Alluvial Fine Ozs.	Dredging Fine Ozs.	Lode Fine Ozs.	Total Fine Ozs.	Value £A
Prior to 30/6/1930	197,896			197,896	843,308
1930-31	29,824		34	29,858	154,046
1931-32	48,518		2,600	63,485	434,352
1932-33	46,236	62,635	13,042	121,913	925,899
1933-34	46,959	91,653	25,759	164,381	1,345,801
1934-35	41,185	124,681	29,736	195,602	1,730,644
1935-36	42,828	123,715	22,984	189,527	1,657,979
1936-37	49,077	136,867	30,152	216,096	1,901,989
1937-38	59,279	133,553	19,963	212,795	1,855,684
1938-39	48,216	159,769	21,228	229,213	2,116,117
1939-40	63,268	180,857	27,450	271,575	2,878,353
1940-41	63,329	173,833	18,873	256,035	2,733,880
TOTAL	739,625	1,196,930	211,821	2,148,376	£18,578,052

of similar composition also introduced gold of varying but slightly greater fineness, apparently mainly in small stringers like the later occurrences. Away from the Wau-Edie Creek area most of the gold is derived from mineralisation associated with the extensive Morobe granodiorite batholith or related intrusives. All this granitic gold is of higher fineness, generally 850-900 parts per thousand.

The gold of the Sepik district is derived mainly from reconcentration of the gold contained in conglomerates of the Mio-Pliocene sedimentary series, but undoubtedly in the first place came from reefs and leaders in the eroded basement rocks, which outcrop along the Torricelli ranges, especially in the deeper valleys.

The dredging claims and leases are far too numerous to list here, but the following are some of the principal producers from alluvial mining.

Name.	Situation of Property.
New Guinea Goldfields Ltd.	Edie Creek, Koranga Creek, Bololo River
Koranga Gold Sluicing Ltd.	Koranga Creek.
H.T. Allan.	Anderson's and Bourke's Creek, Golden Ridges (tribute from N.G.G.Ltd.).
Sandy Creek Gold Sluicing Ltd.	Sandy and Poverty Creeks.
Leahy Bros.	Upper Watut River.
Gold and Power Limited.	" " "
E. J. Thomas.	Mouth of Edie Creek.
Mrs. D. R. Booth.	Bulolo River, below Edie Creek.
Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd.	Bulolo River near Powerhouse, sluicing operations.
T. Zoffman.	Bulolo River, four miles below Bulolo township.
A. J. Peadon.	Yonki Creek, Upper Ramu.
J. Thurston.	Parchee River, Sepik District.

Following are some of the geological reports which describe the occurrence of gold and the general geological conditions in the different localities. All these reports are accompanied by geological maps.

Report on the Tugi Tugi goldfields, Tabar Is.	By,	N.H.Fisher.
Report on the Lower Edie Area.	"	"
Notes on the Upper Watut River.	"	"
Report on the Sandy Creek area.	"	"
Report on the Upper Langimar-Kareeba Area	"	"
Report on Gold Discovery at Wongonbungor Ck., Wampit River X	"	"
Report on the Talele Goldfield, New Britain ∅	"	"
Report on the Kupei Goldfield, Bougainville X	"	"
Report on the Goldbearing area of the Wewak district.	"	"
Report on the Benembi Plateau, Mount Hagen.	"	"
Report on the Upper Bitoi-Black Cat, including notes on the area between Wau & Salamaua.	"	L.C.Noakes,
Report on the Upper Watut Area.	"	"

Report on the Chimbu-Hagen Area. By L.C.Noakes.
Report on the Area between Wau and Garaina,
Waria River X " N.H.Fisher.
Report on the Island of New Britain ø " L.C.Noakes.

X Copies of these reports are in the possession of the Allied Geographical Section, Brisbane.

ø Published in Geological Bulletin, No. 3, Territory of New Guinea, a copy of which is forwarded herewith.

All the above reports and others which will be quoted later are on file in Canberra and, no doubt, arrangements could be made to supply copies if the need were considered urgent.

Enclosed with this report are a geological sketch map of the area south of the Markham River, which includes nearly all the Morobe Goldfield except the Ramu headwaters, scale 1/250000, approximately 4 miles to one inch; and a more detailed geological map of the Bulolo and Watut River valleys on a scale of 1/50000, 4/5 mile to one inch. These plans show nearly all the localities in the Morobe goldfield, which are mentioned in this report and most of the others can be found on the published map of New Guinea and Papua.

Lode Mining.

The only workable lodes so far found are near the head of Edie Creek and at Golden Ridges, 2 miles north-west of Wau. The main veins at Edie Creek occupy a series of steeply-dipping fissures aligned in a northwest-southeast direction, comprising from the south-east end, Day Dawn South, Surman's Vein, Edie Lodes Nos. 4, 1, 5, 2 and 3, Karuka and Enterprise Lodes. Of these Edie No. 1 lies just within the southern edge of the Upper Edie porphyry, and all the others are in mudstone, schist, or volcanic agglomerate not far from the porphyry intrusive. The Day Dawn lode lies partly along the schist-porphyry contact and partly in a fissure zone in the schist on the north side of the main Edie porphyry body. One or two other veins have been found up Merri Ck. The outcrops of all these lodes consisted of soft manganiferous material with some quartz, and at deeper levels the lode material altered to quartz and/or calcite with some rhodocrosite, and a small proportion of sulphides. Values decreased generally from the surface downwards, particularly below the zone of oxidation.

At Golden Ridges 150,000 tons of manganiferous ore averaging over 1 oz. of gold per ton was found lying flat, almost on the surface, and higher up the hillside, at Upper Ridges, the outcrop of a similar flat-lying but rather lower grade body was found. This ore turned to calcite, rhodocrosite and quartz at shallow depth and dipped south-west at about 30° into the mountain. Country rock of these lodes is late Tertiary volcanic breccia. A similar, but steeply dipping, lode was found half a mile to the east at the head of Anderson's Creek. The Golden Peaks lode is a low grade manganiferous formation just below Golden Ridges. Another lode which has been worked in a small way is the Mount Kaindi lode near the top of the mountain of that name. Of all these lodes Golden Ridges and Day Dawn South have been worked out. Most of the gold of the Day Dawn mine has also been extracted, but various shoots of ore were still being worked in a small way.

Production at the Edie Creek Mine, which was owned and operated by New Guinea Goldfields Limited, ceased on March, 17th, 1941 on account of a strike and the lower levels were flooded. The mine, which includes workings on Edie Nos. 1, 2 and 5 and on Karuka lode, was not subsequently reopened, but reserves of ore are estimated at:-

	Tons	Recoverable Grade
Main Mine	17844	8 dwts. Au per ton.
Karuka Mine	12339	5.4 " " "
Total	30183	7.0

The Enterprise Company had opened up some 60,000 tons of 7 dwt. ore, but had not commenced production and had no milling plant.

Operations were proceeding at Upper Ridges and Anderson's Creek, but exact figures for ore not yet mined cannot be given at the moment. These mines were estimated to contain 120,000 tons of 8-10 dwt. ore, but have been partly worked out since that estimate was made. An approximate estimate of ore reserves suggests that some 50-60000 ozs. recoverable gold remain in the Edie, Enterprise, Day Dawn and Upper Ridges Mines, but much of this will only be workable if conditions are exceptionally favourable in the future, as the cost of rehabilitation of the plant and mines and of the necessary replacements may be so high that ore reserves remaining will not warrant the expenditure.

A small reef formation carrying up to 10 dwts. of gold per ton has been found on the Talele goldfield, near Cape Lambert, New Britain, and a little alluvial recovered from adjacent streams but the area holds no promise of future production. Ten miles south-west of Kieta, on Bougainville Island, a small company was engaged for several years in working a low grade cupriferous lode, consisting of a stockwork of quartz veins in porphyry. Some attention was also given to some narrow reefs at Pumkuna a few miles farther inland, which carry moderate gold values, but operations returned little, if any, profit and total production was small.

The following detailed reports on the geology of the various mines, accompanied by geological plans and sections, have been prepared.

Report on the Day Dawn South Lode	By N.E.Fisher.
Report on the Day Dawn Mine	" "
Report on Mount Kaindi Lode	" "
Report on the Enterprise Mine	" "
Report on the Upper Ridges Lode	" "
Report on Anderson's Creek Lode	" L.C.Noakes.
Report on the Edie and Karuka Lodes	"N.E.Fisher.
Report on the Velaloo Lode, Lower Watut	" "
Report on the Golden Parallelogram Lode	" "
Report on the Golden Deeps Lode	" "
Report on the True Dream Lode, Talele Goldfield, New Britain	" "
Report on the Kupei and Pumkuna Lodes, Kieta goldfield	"

A description of the ore geology of the Day Dawn Mine has appeared in Economic Geology Vol. XXXIV No. 2, pp. 173-189, and a paper on Metasomatism associated with Tertiary mineralisation in ~~xx~~ New Guinea, published in Economic Geology, Vol. XXXIV No. 8 pp. 890-904, gives a brief outline of the geology of the Wau-Edie Creek area and of the lode occurrences.

SILVER.

Silver production from the Territory has been only incidental to gold-mining operations. The alluvial from Edie and Merri Creeks contained 40 to 50% of silver, and this proportion decreased downstream, due mainly to the addition of higher grade gold from granitic and other sources. Bullion obtained by cyanidation from Day Dawn South, Day Dawn, and New Guinea Goldfields

Limited's Mines at Edie Creek was very rich in silver, some of it containing only a small percentage of gold. The production of gold and silver from the Territory up to the present is shown in Table 2. Each district is listed separately.

PLATINUM and OSMIRIDIUM.

These minerals occur in serpentinous rocks in the Waria Valley and also in similar material in the basement rocks which are exposed in the core of the ranges in the Sepik district. Small quantities have been included in parcels of alluvial gold forwarded from the Waria and Ono Rivers and from the Sepik goldfield, but the total production amounts to only a few ounces.

MERCURY.

Cinnabar has been found in alluvials of Upper Edie Creek and can be seen associated with pyrite in the Enterprise lode on the lower levels of the mine, but there is little possibility of its being extracted on a commercial scale.

MANGANESE.

All the gold lodes contain a certain proportion of manganese, and their outcrops consisted of black soft earthy manganiferous material. Pyrolusite, psilomelane and manganite have been identified, and rhodocrosite is plentiful in the Upper Ridges lode and the No. 1 lode at Edie Creek. Most of the manganese has been mined and passed down the creeks as tailings. In any case little, if any, would have been suitable for industrial use even if the cost of transport had not been prohibitive.

COPPER.

Copper minerals have been reported from various parts of the Territory, e.g. Waria Valley, Central Nakanai in New Britain, and Bougainville, but have not been found in sufficient quantity to be of commercial interest.

IRON.

Small bodies of fairly high grade and one or two larger bodies of low grade iron ore outcrop on and adjacent to Rangarere Plantation, near Cape Lambert, North Baining, New Britain. The ore consists of hematite and magnetite, and partly replaced sedimentary rocks and carries some pyrite. It was examined by Dr. R.L.Jack and Mr. K. Church of Broken Hill Pty. Ltd., but was considered by them not to have any promise as an iron ore producer. Reference - Report on Talele Goldfield & Environs by N.H.Fisher, in Geological Bulletin No. 3 of the Territory of New Guinea.

Boulders of solid magnetic iron ore carrying gold have been found in Yonki Creek and Barola Creek in the Upper Ramu area, but the source of these boulders has not been discovered.

LEAD and ZINC.

Samples containing galena, sphalerite and other minerals have been obtained from various localities in the Morobe district and elsewhere, usually from near the contact of intrusive porphyries, but no defined lodes of any size have been found.

SULPHUR.

Sulphur occurs as the native element, which has been deposited by solfataric action around the craters of active and extinct volcanoes along the north coast of New Britain and New

Guinea. The principal deposits are at Lolobau Island, 10,000? tons, Mount Pago, 4000 tons, Mount Garbuna 1700 tons, with lesser amounts at the South Son, Talasea, Langila, Rabaul and Kairiru. Details of these deposits have been published in Geological Bulletin No. 3 of the Territory of New Guinea, in two papers.

1. Report on the Sulphur Deposits of New Britain.
2. Report on the Sulphur Deposits of Lolobau Island.

LIMESTONE.

Unlimited quantities of limestone of various types are found both on the Islands and on the mainland, the degree of compaction varying in a general way with age. The crushed material known as "coronace" which is used successfully in road-making in New Ireland, New Britain and elsewhere, is of Pleistocene to Recent age. Eocene to Miocene limestones are plentiful, however, and even earlier limestones, probably of Palaeozoic age, as at Rangarere, and at Quombo Creek and the Upper Bulolo River near Wau.

CLAY.

Clays suitable for brickwork and rough pottery are abundant in the Tertiary and Recent sedimentary deposits and these are to be found throughout the Madang and Sepik districts, in the Bulolo, Watut, Waria and Upper Ramu valleys as well as on the Islands of New Britain and New Ireland. Owing to the prevalence of earthquakes the use of bricks in construction work cannot be advocated.

PHOSPHATE ROCK.

Phosphate rock has been reported from the Talele Islands, north of Rangarere, New Britain, but this writer was not able to locate any during a brief visit to the Islands.

COAL.

Seams of lignitic coal up to two feet thick have been found in Upper Miocene strata at Matakan Plantation, west coast of New Ireland and on the Toriu River, west coast of Gazelle Peninsula, New Britain, south of Pondo. Proximate analyses are given below.

	Fixed Carbon	Volatile Hydro-Carbons.	Moisture	Ash	Sulphur	Total
Toriu River	27.06	33.47	20.06	13.39	5.82	100.0
Matakan	27.02	36.94	21.15	12.50	3.39	100.0

The Matakan occurrence has been examined and reported on by Mr. L.C.Noakes, Assistant Geologist.

PETROLEUM.

An outline of the history of the search for oil in New Guinea and Papua has been given in the report on the Mining Industry and Mineral Resources of Papua. For more than ten years Oil Search Limited, and later Australasian Petroleum Company, have been engaged upon geological mapping, supplemented later by aerial photography, in the Sepik district, between the Sepik River and the sea, while Islands Exploration Limited mapped considerable areas in the Madang district between the coast and the Ramu River. A promising dome structure was found near Maimai, 42 miles south of Aitape, and several other anticlinal axes were mapped in adjacent areas. Subsequent detailed field work on the Maimai area revealed discouraging features and the search for oil in the Mandated Territory was relegated to second place pending the testing by drilling of more favourable locations in Papua.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.
27th August, 1943.

N.H.FISHER,
Chief Geologist.

Table 2.

ESTIMATED GOLD AND SILVER PRODUCTION
MANDATED TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA.

All Quantities in Fine Ozs.

Year Ending June 30th	MOROBE GOLDFIELD		MADANG (Mt.Hagen)		SEPIK		KIETA		NEW IRELAND (Tugi Tugi)		NEW BRITAIN (Talele)		TOTAL PRODUCTION				
	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Value £A	Silver	Value	Total Value
Prior to Dec. 1926	23,000	11,000											23,000	100,000	11,000	1,500	101,500
Jan. 1927 to June																	
1928	100,365	92,640											100,365	426,552	92,640	10,191	436,743
1929	44,277	34,500											44,277	188,176	34,500	2,587	190,763
1930	30,254	22,800											30,254	128,580	22,800	1,710	130,290
1931	29,858	19,800											29,858	154,046	19,800	1,485	155,531
1932	63,485	36,000											63,485	434,352	36,000	2,710	437,062
1933	121,913	54,150											121,913	925,899	54,150	5,690	931,589
1934	164,381	78,636											164,381	1,345,802	78,636	7,969	1,353,771
1935	195,602	86,876	27	9	710	58	45	2.2	105	17.7	8.65	.7	196,498	1,738,561	86,964	12,742	1,751,303
1936	189,527	94,274			1,056	87	113	5.6	22	3.7	8.65	.7	190,727	1,668,464	94,371	11,930	1,680,394
1937	216,096	123,286			6,097	500	598	29.7	25	4.2			222,816	1,961,125	123,820	13,572	1,974,697
1938	212,795	171,188	485	159	10,109	829	487	24.2	4	.7			223,880	1,952,344	172,201	18,040	1,970,384
1939	229,213	147,277	302	99	7,871	645	297	14.8	22	3.7			237,705	2,193,438	148,040	16,003	2,209,441
1940	271,575	194,585	435	143	6,589	540	217	10.8	124	21			278,940	2,954,199	195,300	23,306	2,977,505
1941	256,034	183,818	747	245	6,238	512	32	1.6	45	7.6			263,096	2,808,833	184,584	21,965	2,830,798
July Dec. 1941	108,229	68,818	66	39	1,982	163							110,277	1,178,548	69,020	8,212	2,186,760
Total	2,256,604	1,410,648	2062	894	40,652	3334	1789	89	347	59	17.3	1	2,301,472	20,158,919	1,423,826	159,612	20,318,531
Total Value Each District £A	19,736,107	159,121	19,204	79	383,835	376	16,243	10	3,379	8	152	.2					

Table 2.

ESTIMATED GOLD AND SILVER PRODUCTION MANDATED TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA.

All Quantities in Fine Ozs.

Year Ending June 30th	MOROBE GOLDFIELD Gold	MOROBE GOLDFIELD Silver	MADANG (Mt. Hagen) Gold	MADANG (Mt. Hagen) Silver	SEPIK Gold	SEPIK Silver	KIETA Gold	KIETA Silver	NEW IRELAND (Tugi Tugi) Gold	NEW IRELAND (Tugi Tugi) Silver	NEW BRITAIN (Talele) Gold	NEW BRITAIN (Talele) Silver	TOTAL PRODUCTION Gold	TOTAL PRODUCTION Value £A	TOTAL PRODUCTION Silver	TOTAL PRODUCTION Value	TOTAL PRODUCTION Total Value
Prior to Dec. 1926	23,000	11,000											23,000	100,000	11,000	1,500	101,500
Jan. 1927 to June																	
1928	100,365	92,640											100,365	426,552	92,640	10,191	436,743
1929	44,277	34,500											44,277	188,176	34,500	2,587	190,763
1930	30,254	22,800											30,254	128,580	22,800	1,710	130,290
1931	29,858	19,800											29,858	154,046	19,800	1,485	155,531
1932	63,485	36,000											63,485	434,352	36,000	2,710	437,062
1933	121,913	54,150											121,913	925,899	54,150	5,690	931,589
1934	164,381	78,636											164,381	1,345,802	78,636	7,969	1,353,771
1935	195,602	86,876	27	9	710	58	45	2.2	105	17.7	8.65	.7	196,498	1,738,561	86,964	12,742	1,751,303
1936	189,527	94,274			1,056	87	113	5.6	22	3.7	8.65	.7	190,727	1,668,464	94,371	11,930	1,680,394
1937	216,096	123,286			6,097	500	598	29.7	25	4.2	-	-	222,816	1,961,125	123,820	13,572	1,974,697
1938	212,795	171,188	485	159	10,109	829	487	24.2	4	.7	-	-	223,880	1,952,344	172,201	18,040	1,970,384
1939	229,213	147,277	302	99	7,871	645	297	14.8	22	3.7	-	-	237,705	2,193,438	148,040	15,982	2,209,420
1940	271,575	194,585	435	143	6,589	540	217	10.8	124	21	-	-	278,940	2,954,199	195,300	23,306	2,977,505
1941	256,035	183,818	747	245	6,238	512	32	1.6	45	7.6	-	-	263,096	2,808,833	184,584	21,965	2,830,798
1942 Ø	90,192	57,351	66	22	1,541	240	-	-	-	-	-	-	91,799	982,250	57,613	6,079	988,329
1943	18,002	12,457	457	150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,459	198,664	12,607	2,921	201,585
1944	81,245	56,222	1,183	388	424	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	82,852	899,444	56,644	13,311	912,755
1945	89,764	62,117	451	148	915	74	166	8	-	-	-	-	91,296	982,572	62,347	14,392	996,964
1946	83,344	57,674	735	241	753	61	126	6	-	-	-	-	84,958	1,210,275	57,982	17,938	1,228,213
1947	86,676	59,980	617	202	205	17	95	5	-	-	-	-	87,593	1,356,962	60,204	22,576	1,379,538
Total	2,597,598	~~1,647,630~~ 1,656,631	5,506	1,807	42,507	3,597	2,176	108	347	59	17·3	1·4	2,648,151	24,610,539	1,662,205	228,596	24,839,135

Total Value, each district

24,116,032	227,754	62,034	386	407,566	432	21,376	16	3,379	8	152	·2	

Ø Production ceased in January 1942 and figures are available only for July - Nov. 1941.