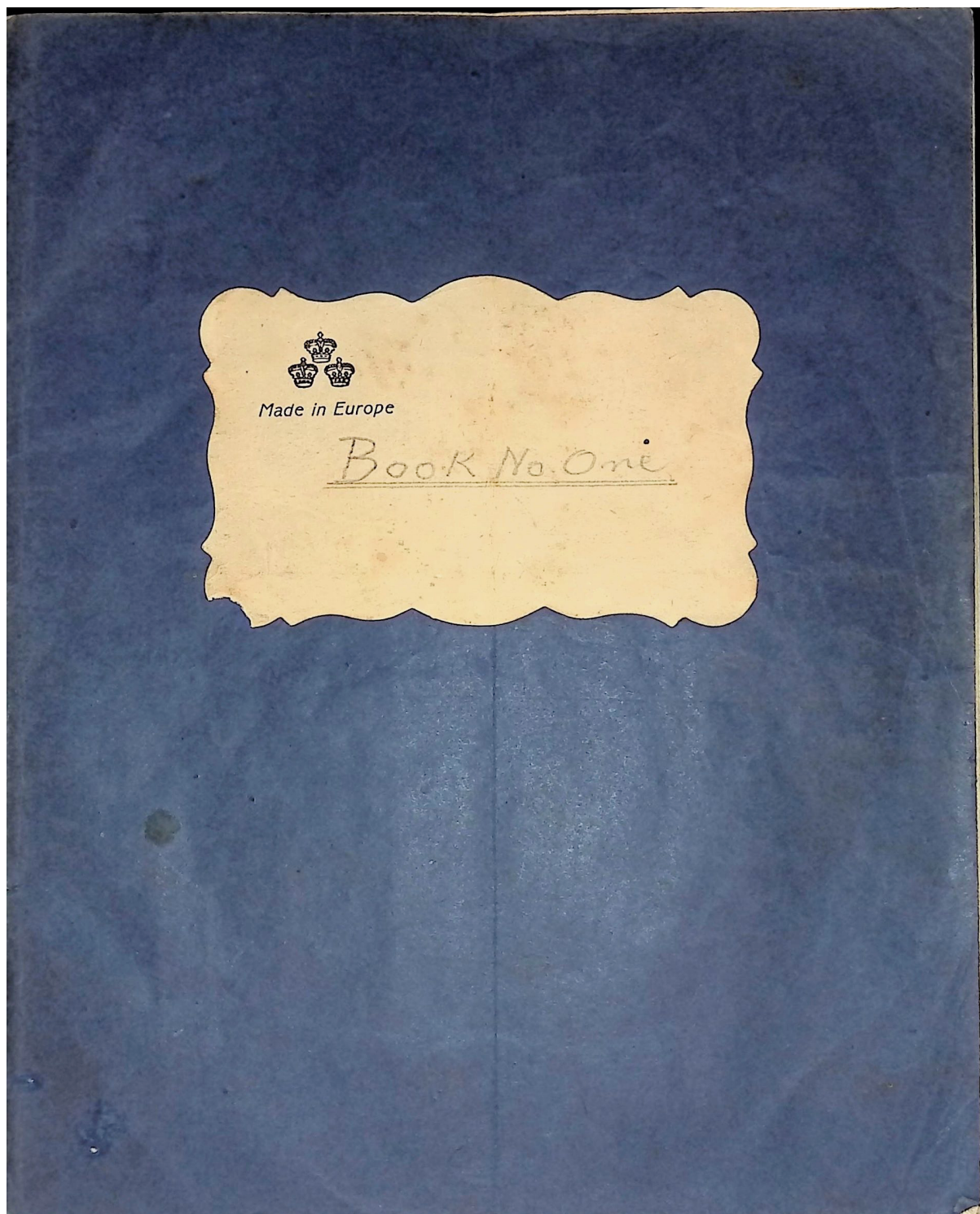
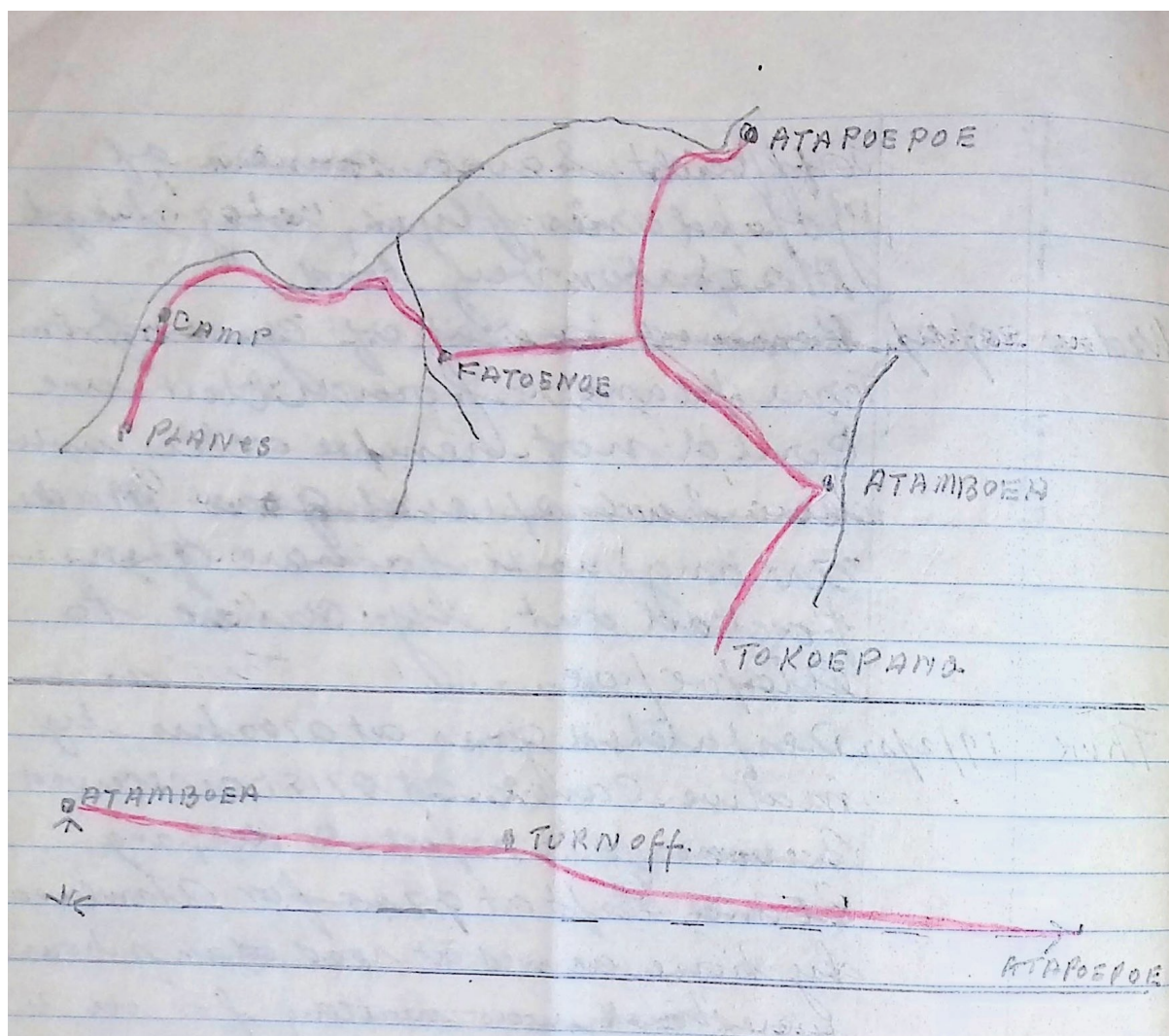


Neave, Reginald Claydon (Captain, b.1907 - d.1958). – *Diary 15 February 1942 – 9 August 1942.* – Australian War Memorial Private Record PR85/023



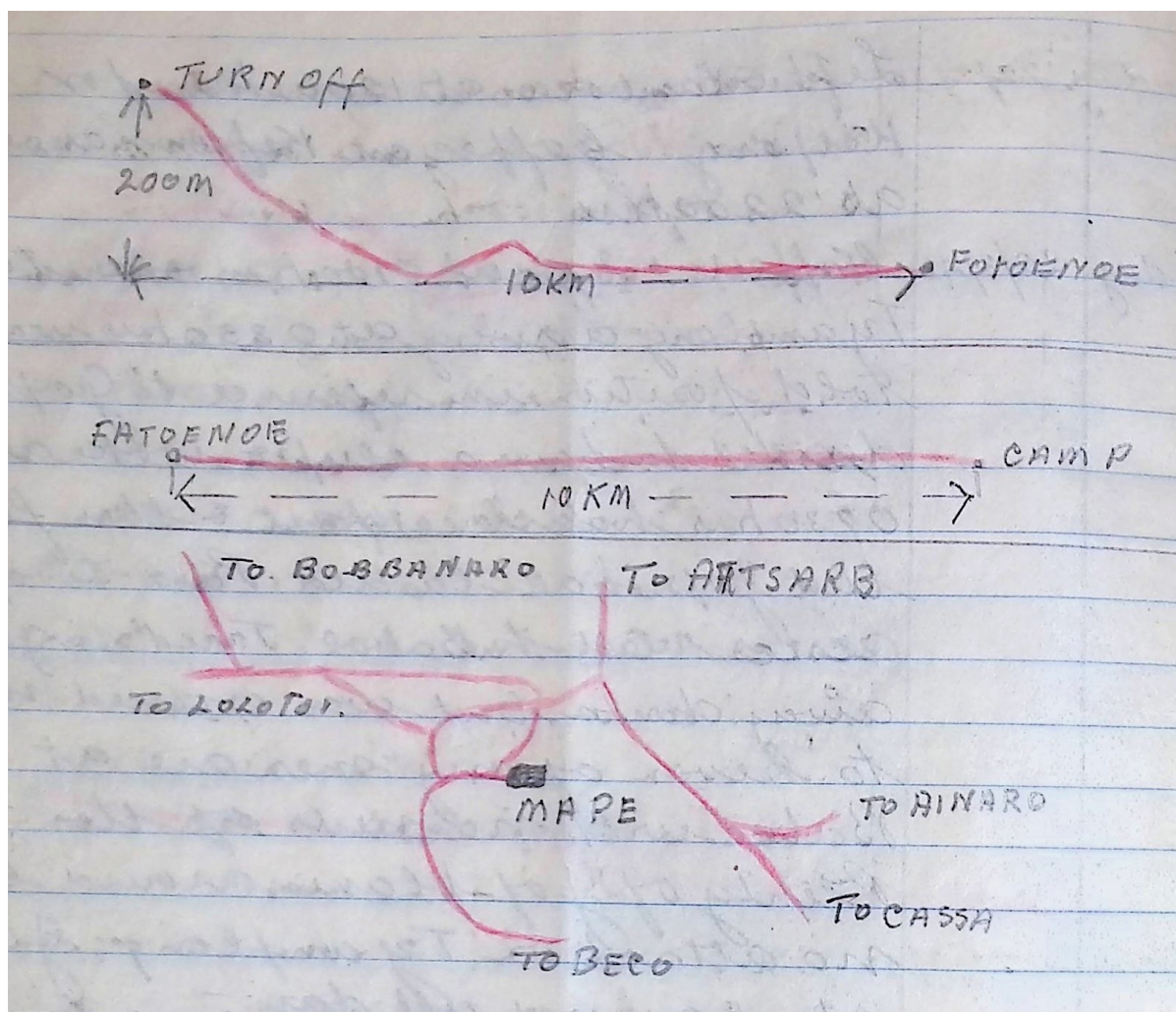
Sunday	15/2/42	Left Tjamplong for Atamboea by truck at 0700 hrs. My party consisted of C/I Hallick and Pte Trengrove. Other parties Fort
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		Sigs 1 officer and 2 OR's, Air Force 1 officer and 6 OR's. Arrived at 1700 hrs. Met Capt Van Sweetman and arranged everything for the next day.
Monday	16/2/42	Left Atamboea by truck to 10 km post where we picked up horses and rode to the aeroplanes having lunch at FATOEONI . On the way track very swampy. Inspected one plane but did not start work – too tired after riding.
Tuesday	17/2/42	Removed 6 Browning guns from one plane in the morning. One went off – we all got a fright. In the afternoon removed another set of guns from a plane further afield. These were a little difficult. Saw a number of Jap planes flying very high. Mosquitoes very bad.
Wednesday	18/2/42	Removed a set of guns from one plane and found that we could not remove others until we had special gear. Made arrangements to have guns packed out by canoe to Atapoepoe .
Thursday	19/2/42	Despatched guns at 0700 hrs by native canoe. At 0715 hrs received a message to report to Koepang at once. Left at 0745 for Atamboea by horse. Arrived at road in 4 hours where a truck was waiting for us. Went to Atamboea. Picked up our truck. Went to Atapoepoe. Canoe had not arrived. Returned to Atamboea for a wash and meal then returned to Atapoepoe. Picked up guns. (Had to wait for canoe). Told AASC who were there to return at once. Left Atamboea at 1800 hrs for Koepang. Coffee at Kefannaoe at 2200 hrs.
Friday	20/2/42	Coffee at Soe at 0100 hrs and on to Tjamplong arriving at 0330 hrs. Was told position in reference to Japs. Decided to have a sleep and woke at 0730 hrs. Had breakfast and then found that Japs had landed paratroops across road to Babaoe . Tried to get away down but was ordered not to. Seven of my men are at Babaoe – no news of them. Plenty of Jap planes around but no attack on Tjamplong. Just stood around all day.
Saturday	21/2/42	Left for Soe at 0400 hrs after long conference. Left a small party with the hospital at Tjamplong. Arrived at 0730 hrs got men settled. Decided to have a rest day – lay down on floor at 1200 hrs. Finish of day.

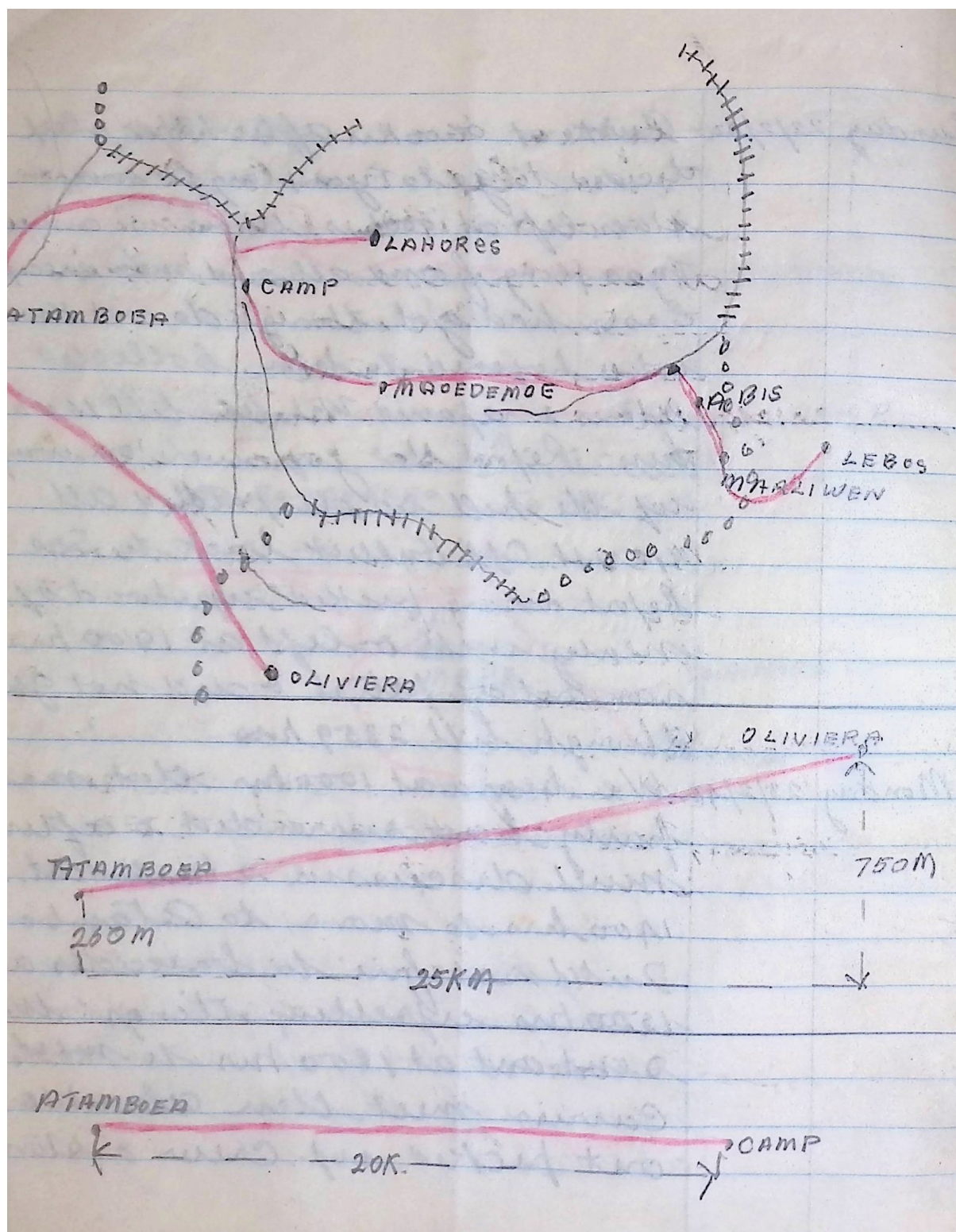


Sunday	22/2/42	Awoke at 0600 hrs after 18 hrs sleep. Decided to go to Tjamplong for more stores – left at 1000 hrs. When we arrived at Tjamplong found all our men except Esson had got through – do not know what happened to him. Collected stores and repaired vehicles until 1600 hrs. Report that Japs were on their way up the hill so despatched all but Cpl Hullick back to Soe. Report wrong – picked up load of <u>meaty wild</u> and left at 1900 hrs. Ran out of petrol and did not get through until 2359 hrs.
Monday	23/2/42	We heard at 1000 hrs that the main party had surrendered and after much discussion started at 1400 hrs to move to Atamboea. Dutch set fire to barracks at 1500 hrs upsetting things. Was sent out at 1800 hrs to meet <u>Carrier</u> [Bren gun] carrier. Met them about 10 km out. Picked up my crew and stores. Put carrier out of action. Left Soe for Atamboea at 1900 hrs. Blew Benain

		bridge at 2200 hrs – great sight. Picked up Dutch m/c [motor cyclist] – not going to well and helped him along.
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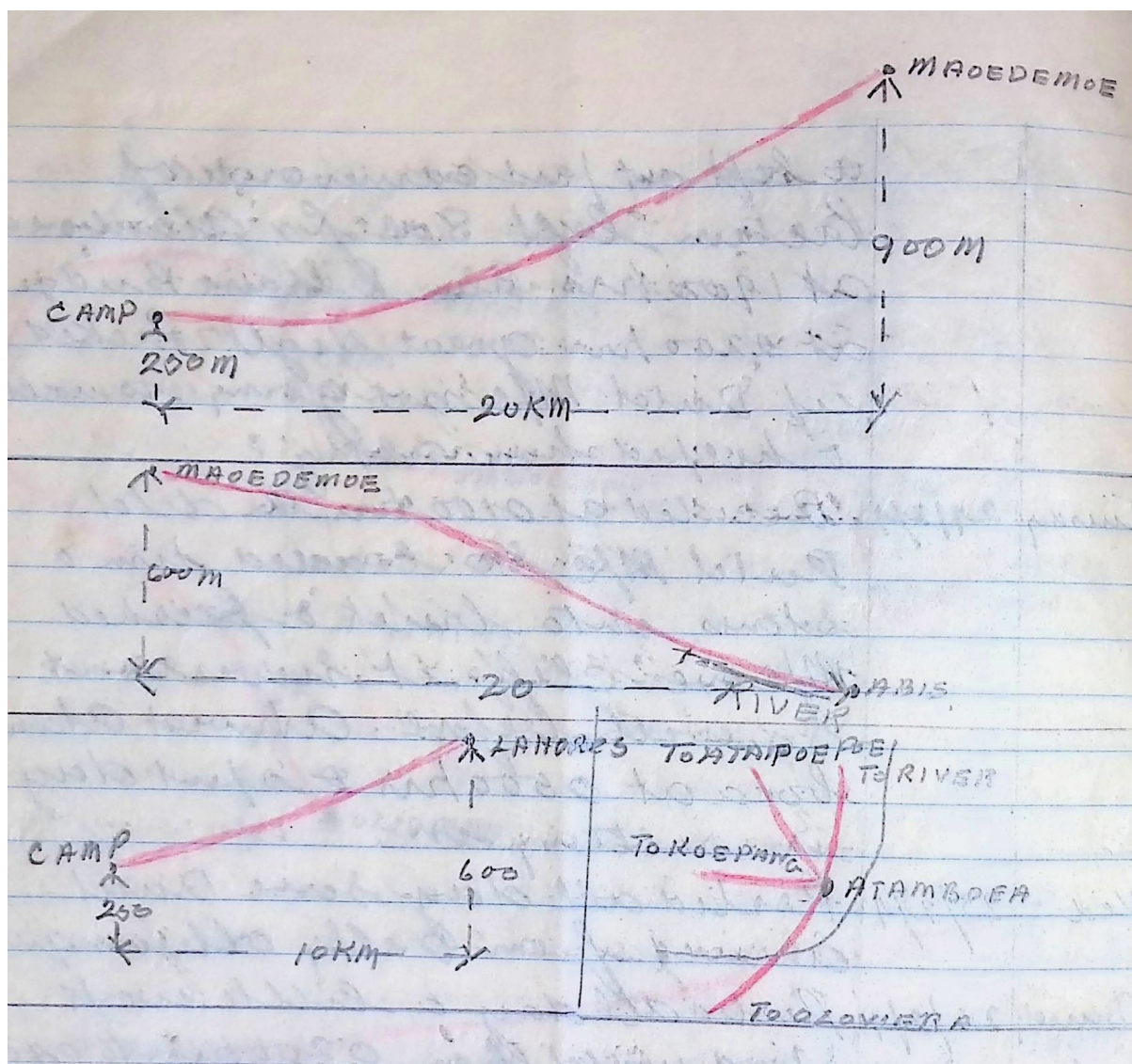


Tuesday	24/2/42	Decided at 0100 hrs to ditch m/c. So loaded him and stores into truck and pushed m/c over cliff - it never went so well before. Arrived Atamboea at 0500 hrs and spent day settling in.
Wednesday	25/2/42	Rested all day. Some Dutch arrived from Dili. Otherwise quiet.
Thursday	26/2/42	Rested all day and little work. Stood watch from 0200 hrs to 0400.
Friday	27/2/42	Still resting. Dutch still arriving. Suggested about boat at Mena River but was knocked back.



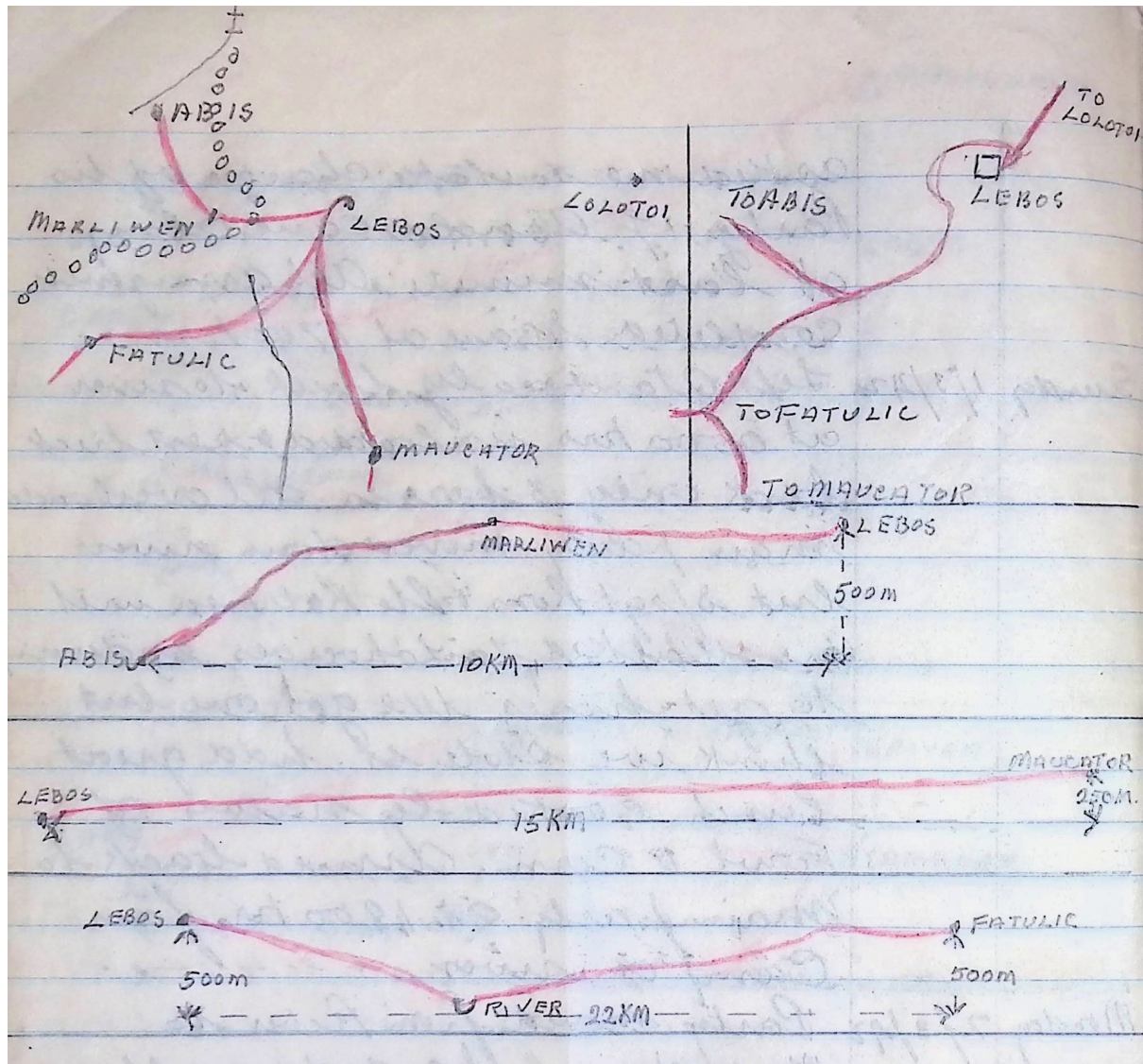
Saturday	28/2/42	Stood watch from 0400 hrs to 0600. Preparation to leave Atamboea were made. Brig asked me to take charge of his party. G. Arnold came along at last minute. All arrangements completed. Scare at 1700 hrs.
Sunday	1/3/42	Left Atamboea by truck to river at 0500 hrs. Unloaded and sent truck back. Only three horses – all overloaded. Main party

		moved down river but S/Sgt Ross and Pte Robinson with me. Walked to Lahoeroes endeavouring to get horses. We got one but think we stole it. Had great lunch cooked by natives of fowl and corn. Arrived back to main party at 1800 hrs. Fair camp on river.
Monday	2/3/42	Party moved from river to Maoedemoe. Hard day all uphill with packs. Sent T. Thick and L. Moule after horses. They arrived back at 1800 hr with Dutch Corporal and advised that horses would be available in the morning. I had my hair off. Four of us moved up to Passia Grande [?] and had a good night.



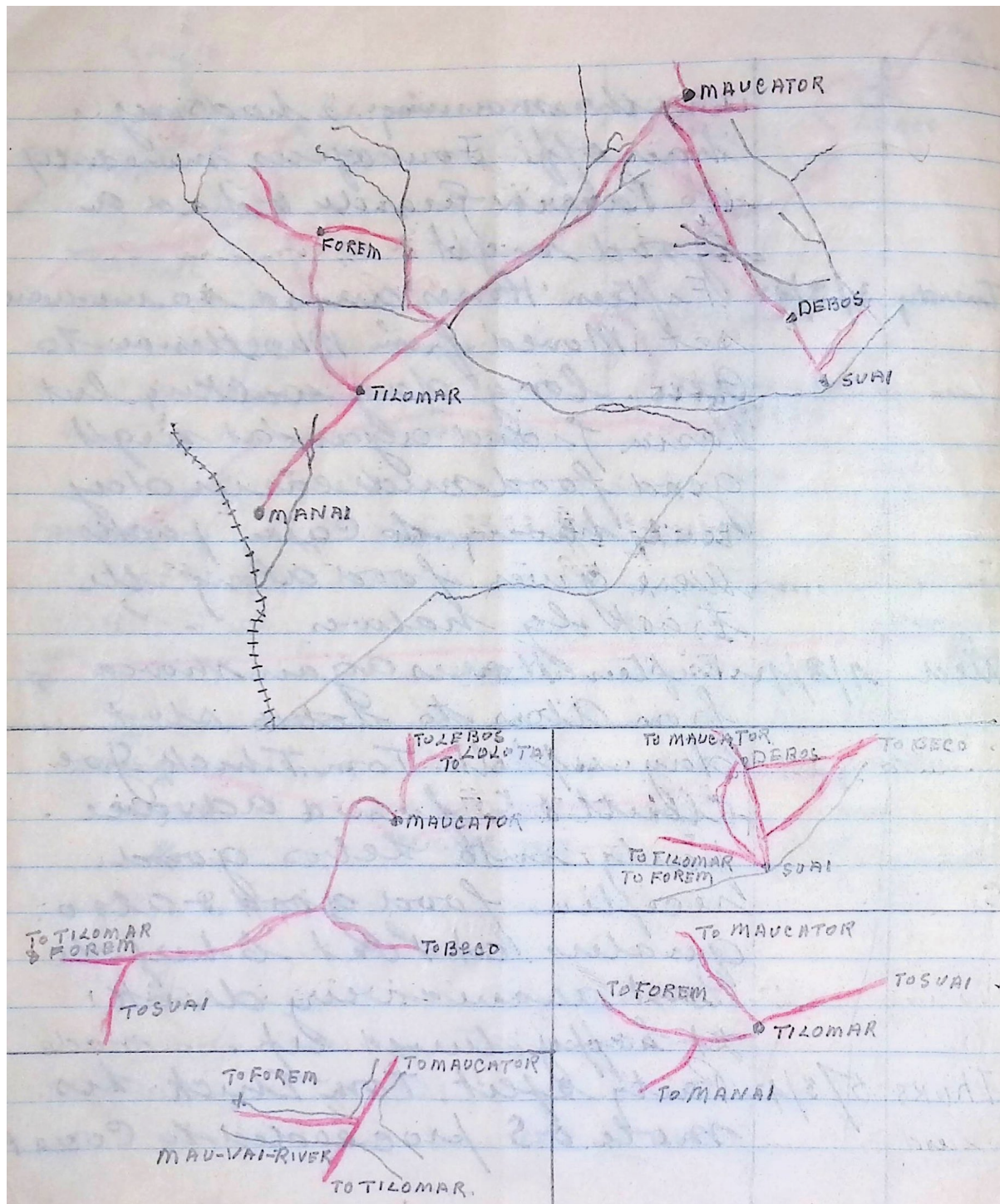
Tuesday	3/3/42	15 horses arrived so we were set. Moved from Maoedemoe to Abis. Long day walking but Passia Grande again at night. Good food. Much easier day not having to carry packs. Were given food along the track by natives.
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Wednesday	4/3/42	15 horses again. Moved from Abis to Lebos – start day uphill. Tom Thick, Joe Cloutt and I formed advance party into Lebos. Good reception, food good and also quarters at Posto. Chefe de Posto arrived and very drunk. Lt Laffy turned up.
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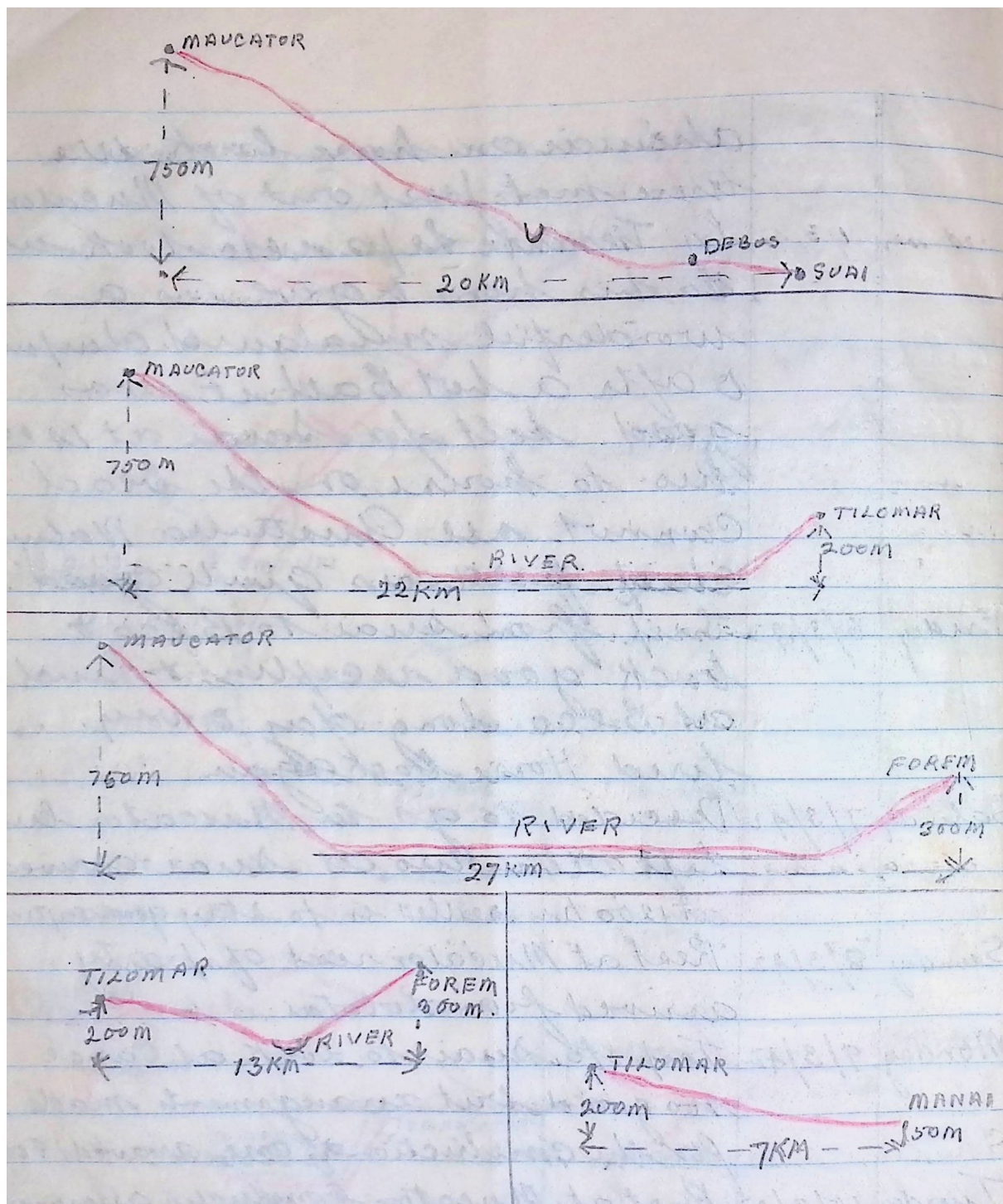
Thursday	5/3/42	Party split. Tom Thick, Les Moule and I proceeded to coast at Suai on horseback. We were met just out of Maucatar by Tenente Lopes who took us to his home and gave us a wonderful meal with champagne and after a hot bath it was good. Left for Suai at 1400 hrs to his house on the beach. Cannot see Australia. Native chief fed us quite well.
Friday	6/3/42	Trip from Suai to Beco and back. Good reception and lunch at Beco. Long day and very tired. Horseback again.
Saturday	7/3/42	Decided to go to Maucatar but left other two at Suai. Arrived at 1200 hrs. Settled in to stay. Good reception.

Sunday	8/3/42	Rest at Maucatar. Rest of party arrived from Lolotoi.
Monday	9/3/42	Trip to Suai to look at canoe. No good but made arrangements for the construction of one. Arrived 1800 hrs.



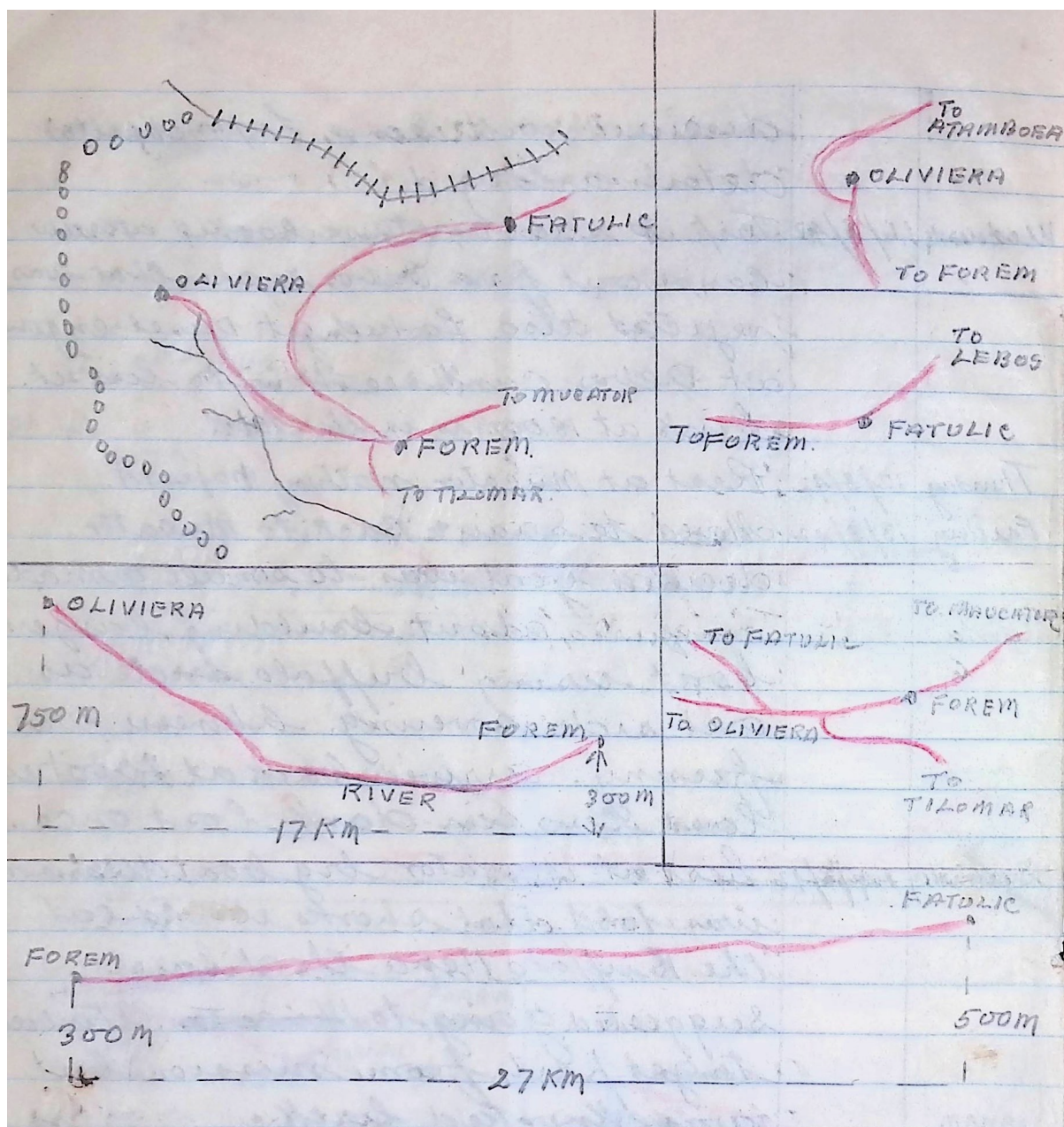
Tuesday	10/3/42	Rest at Maucatar. Construction arrangements discussed with Senor Lopes. Native details arranged.
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Wednesday	11/3/42	Trip to Suai and return. Looked at new canoe out from Debos. One that was rejected also. Looked at diesel engine at Debos. Can't see how to use it. Back at 1800 hrs in the dark.
Thursday	12/3/42	Rest at Maucatar. Nothing happened.
Friday	13/3/42	Moved to Suai and back to Maucatar. Decided boat was too small and made enquiries about building a larger boat using buffalo hide as outside covering. Chinese was funny. Arrived back at 2000 hrs, last two in the dark – lost once.
Saturday	14/3/42	Rest at Maucatar. Big boat discussed – was told sharks would eat the buffalo hide. Hence the Chinese suggested going to Atamboea to get parts from mission but was knocked back.



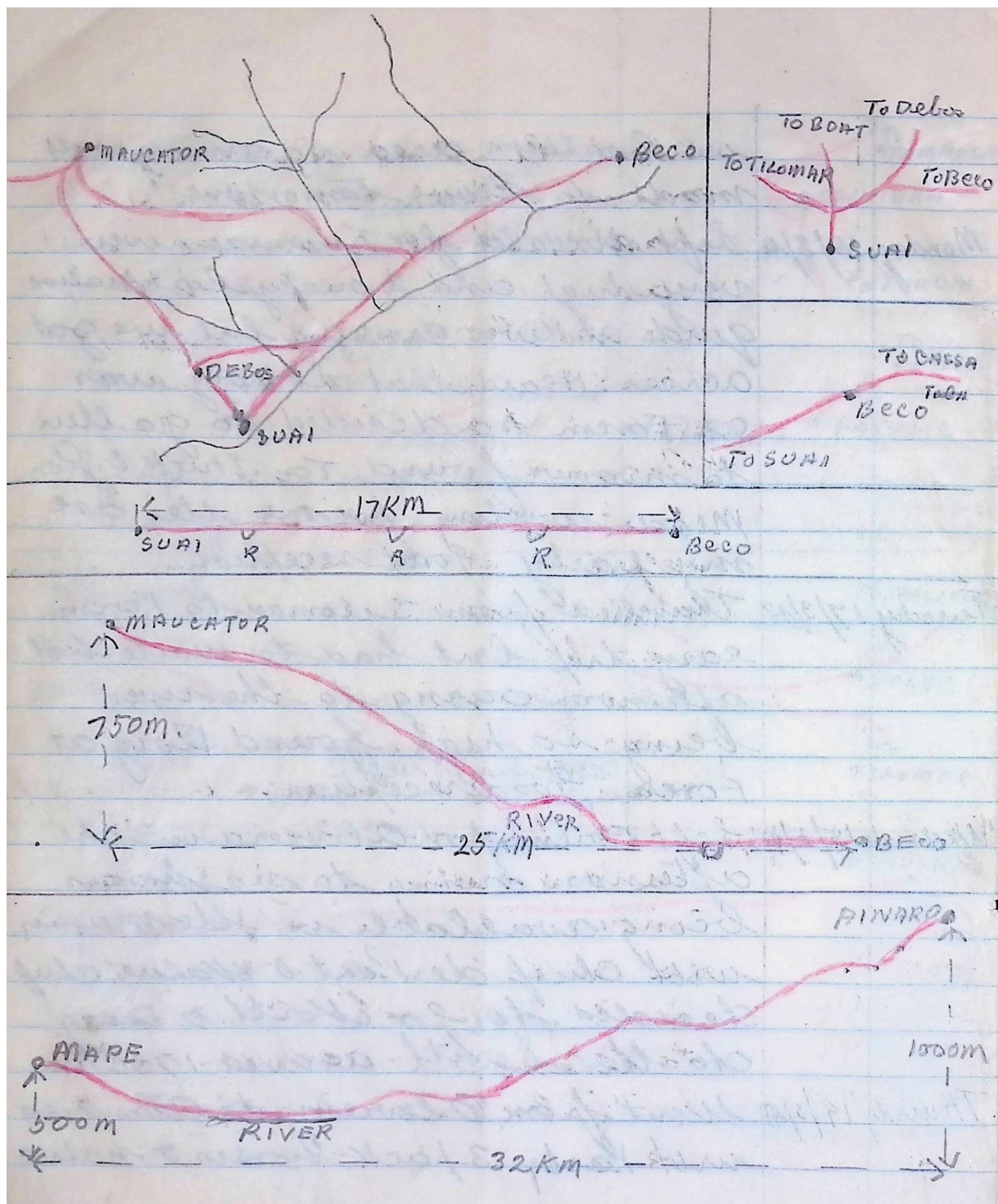
Sunday	15/3/42	Rest at Maucatar. Received orders to round up Australians starting in Southern area, so arrangements made to leave tomorrow.
Monday	16/3/42	Left Maucatar for Tilomar. Rivers very high and I nearly lost native guide at river crossing but we got across. Heard that Lt Doig was at Forem so decided to go there tomorrow. Found Tom Thick and Ron Meade waiting for me. They are my party. Good reception.

Tuesday	17/3/42	Travelled from Tilomar to Forem . Easy trip but had to wait till afternoon owing to the river being so high. Found Doig at Forem – sent him south. Good reception.
Wednesday	18/3/42	Left Forem for Oliviera in the afternoon owing to no horses being available in the morning. With chefe de posto and native chief decided to go north and Doig to the south. Arrived 1700 hrs.



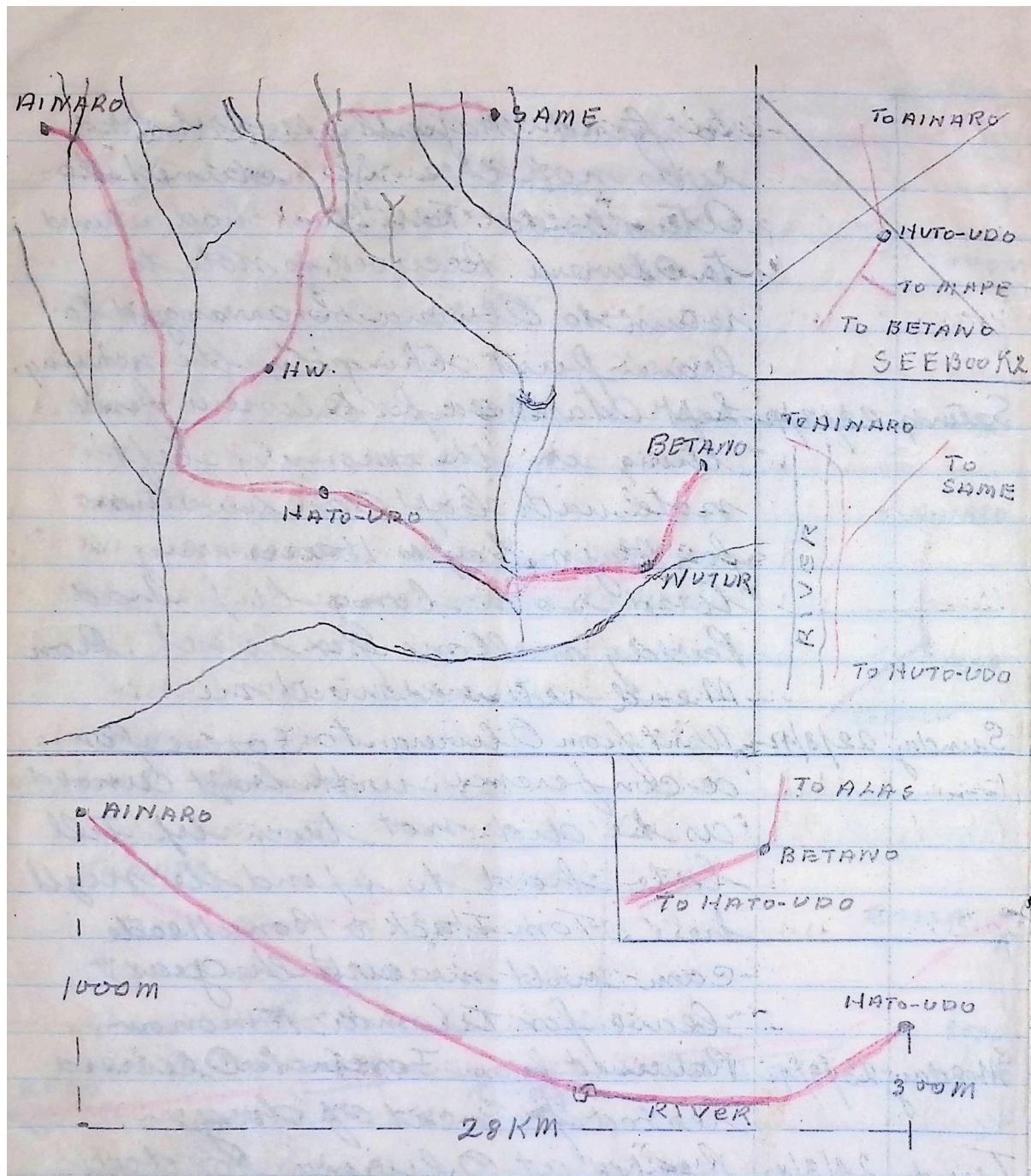
Thursday	19/3/42	Went from Oliviera to Atamboea with party three pack horses and native chief. Lunch at Chinese just out of Atamboea then on. Had thrill at end when we saw some green pants around corner of mission. Tom Thick and myself investigated and found that they were Dutch. Received report on an attempt on Capt
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		Van Sweetman's life. Helped to arrest several natives and then walked out six km to meet him but as he did not turn up. Walked back. Arranged with mission for material. Sent Major Cape a note by native.
Friday	20/3/42	Moved down to Fatoenai [Fatoeoni] with Dutch and native chief. Waited three hours for Major Cape as he did not turn up sent note to Capt Francis and returned to Atamboea. Had conference with Capt Van Sweetman and we went down to Atapoepoe to find Major Cape, but he was not there so returned to Atamboea. Tom Thick had returned to Oliviera so arranged to leave first thing in the morning.

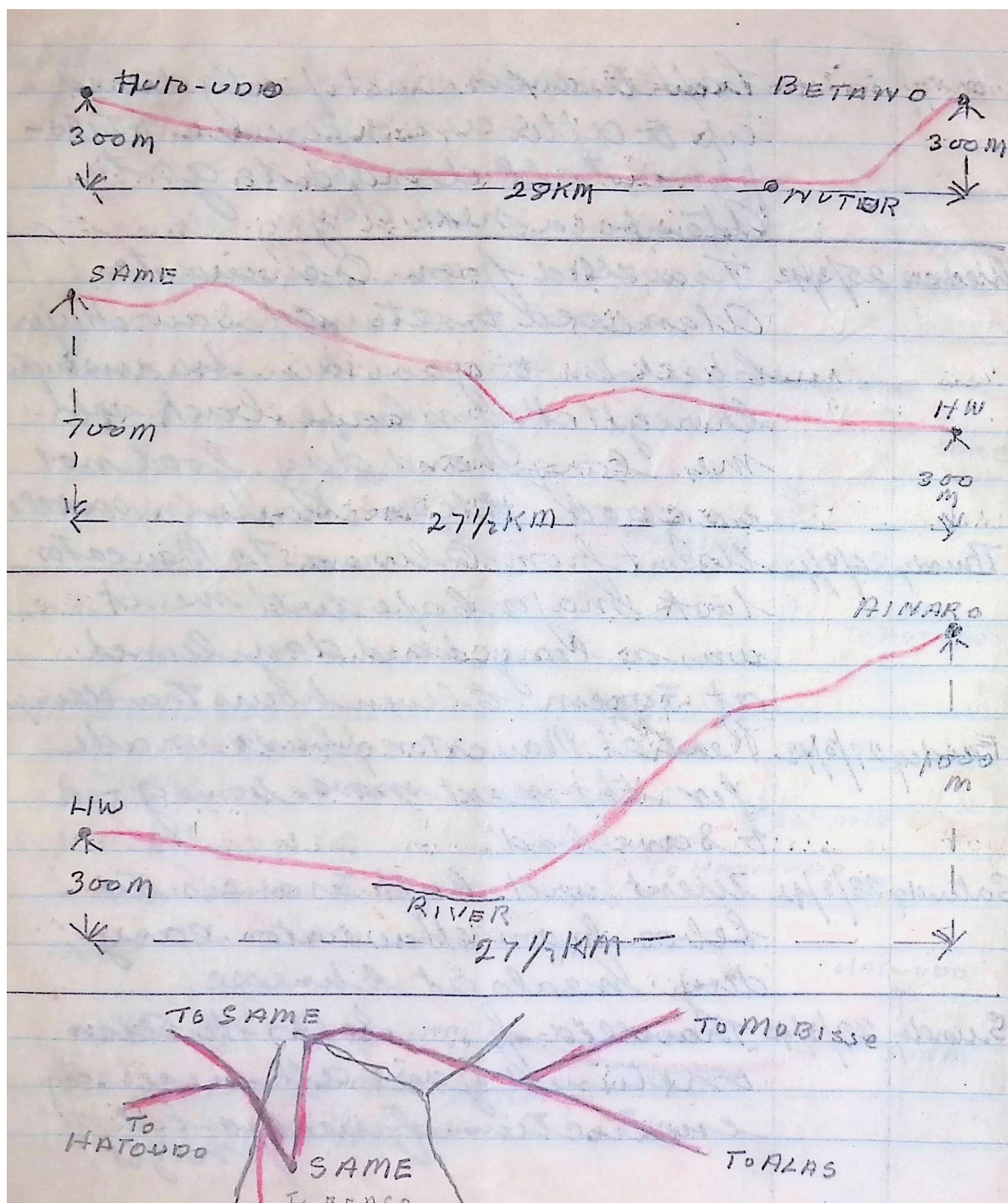


Saturday	21/3/42	Left Atamboea for Oliviera in the morning. Left note with Capt Van Sweetman for Major Cape. Horses very tired so long trip. Had paddy melons for lunch. Ron Mead returned with me.
Sunday	22/3/42	Went from Oliviera to Forem for a conference with Capt Arnold. As he did not turn up till late had to spend the night there. Tom Thick and Ron Meade with me with the gear and leave for Tilomar tomorrow.

Thursday	26/3/42	Went from Oliveira to Maucatar. Took Major Cape with me. It was a long hard day. Lunch at Forem. 11 hours travelling.
Friday	27/3/42	Rest at Maucatar – plans made for the next move. Some good and some bad.
Saturday	28/3/42	Went with Capt Francis to Lebos from Maucatar. Easy day. Meals at Chinese.
Sunday	29/3/42	Travelled from Lebos to Abis and returned and gave all necessary instructions. Finished late at night.

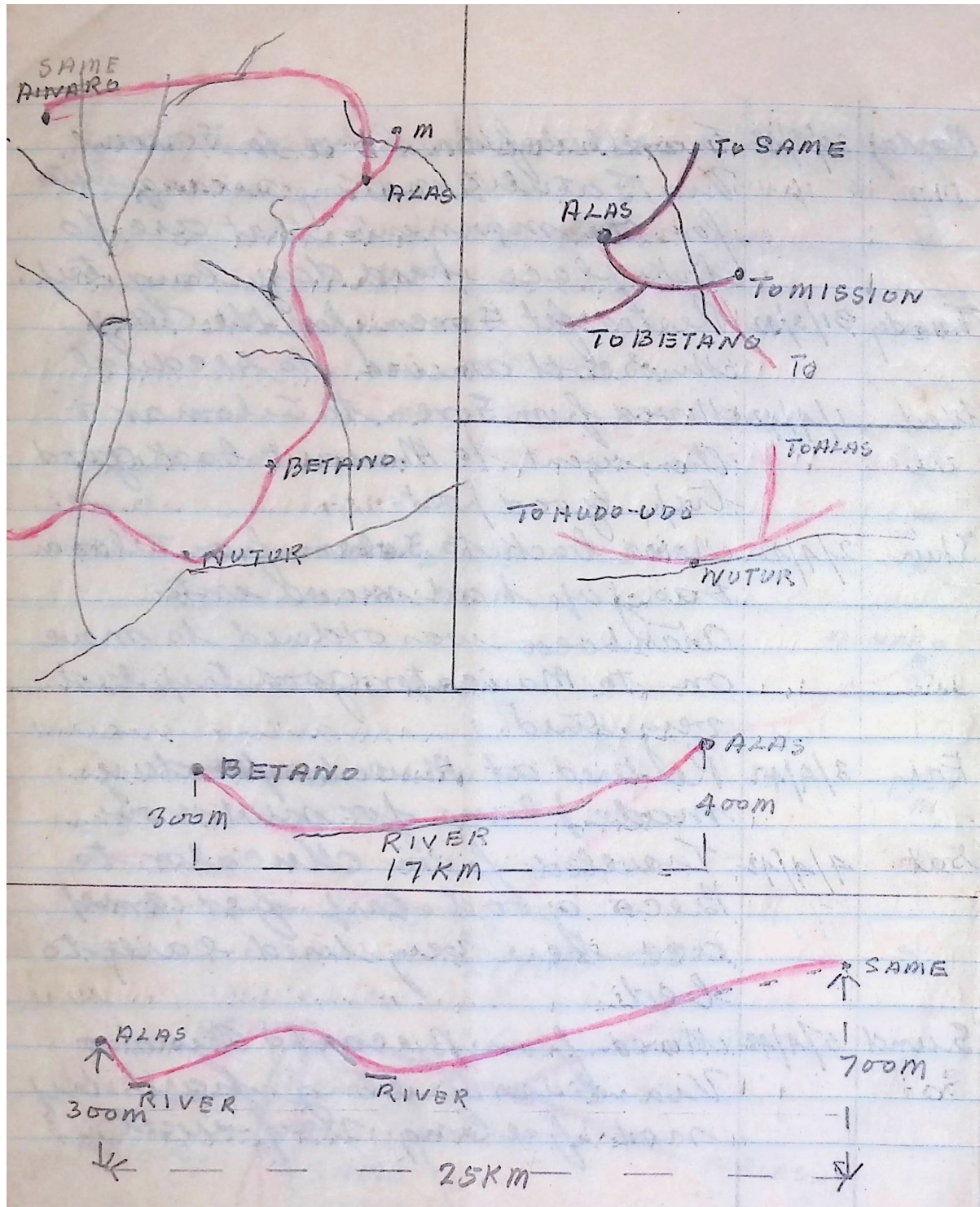


Monday	30/3/42	Travelled from Lebos to Forem via Fatu-Lulic making arrangements for the movements that are to take place. Hard day – long trip.
Tuesday	31/3/42	Rested at Forem for the day. Mr Scott arrived to <i>secdual</i> .
Wednesday	1/4/42	Moved from Forem to Tilomar and then went to Manai and back. Good trip. Good post.
Thursday	2/4/42	Moved back Forem from Tilomar and as the Japs had moved into Atamboea was ordered to move onto Maucatar. Good trip but very tired.
Friday	3/4/42	Rested at Maucatar for day. Made plans for next move.
Saturday	4/4/42	Travelled from Maucatar to Beco . Good trip <i>peria up</i> there. Very tired – early to bed.
Sunday	5/4/42	Moved from Beco to Ainaro via Cassa . Long hard trip – not feeling very well. Good reception and hot bath.



Monday	6/4/42	Rested at Ainaro for day. Received advice on trip. All good except time between towns.
Tuesday	7/4/42	Travelled from Ainaro to Hatu-Udo . Good trip and very interesting. Good reception.
Wednesday	8/4/42	Moved from Hatu-Udo to Betano . Very interesting. You get to the sea in one spot – Nutor . Good lunch halfway. Good reception.

Thursday	9/4/42	Travelled from Betano to Alas . Short trip – interesting. Visited mission and <i>deportados</i> in the afternoon. Fed at all places.
Friday	10/4/42	Went from Alas to Same . Had interesting trip. Good reception. Big house at Same on hill surrounded by water. Rivers, hills at the back.



Saturday	11/4/42	Travelled from Same to Ainaro. Hardest day yet. 11 hours hard riding. Very interesting, but very tired.
Sunday	12/4/42	Rested at Ainaro for day. Started this diary and listened to the BBC at night.
Monday	13/4/42	Travelled from Ainaro to Mape. Not such a good trip. Very tired. Went without guide. Got lost twice and wasted about half an hour. Bad track.
Tuesday	14/4/42	Rested at Mape all day. Made map of trip up to date.
Wednesday	15/4/42	Rested at Mape. Slept most of the day. Moved to new quarters. Letter received from Japs asking for surrender. Bobonaro administrator rung by Japs without result for their time.
Thursday	16/4/42	Rested at Mape. Transferred diary to book – took most of day.

TOWN	TOWN	HOURS		NUMBER TENTS	DISTANCE	
		MT	HORSEWALK			
ATAMBOEA	KOEPANG	9		III	290KM	
do	ATAPOEPOE	1		III	27KM	
do	TURN OFF	1/2	1 1/2	III	10KM	
TURN OFF	FATOENOE		2	III	10KM	
FATOENOE	CAMP		2	II	10KM	
CAMP	PLANCE		1	III	4KM	
ATAMBOEA	CAMP	1	1	I	20KM	
CAMP	LOHORES		3	II	10KM	
do	MoedemoE		6	I	20KM	
MoedemoE	ABIS		6	I	20KM	
ABIS	LEBOS		2	3	III	10KM
LEBOS	MAUCATOR		3	II	15KM	
MAUCATOR	SUAI		4	III	20KM	
SUAI	Beco		3 1/2	II	17KM	
MAUCATOR	TILOMAR		4 1/2	I	22KM	
TILOMAR	FOREM		2 1/2	III	13KM	
FOREM	OLIVIERA		3 1/2	III	17KM	
OLIVIERA	ATAMBOEA		5	III	25KM	
FOREM	MAUCATOR		3 1/2	II	27KM	
LEBOS	FATULIC		4 1/2	I	22KM	
FATULIC	FOREM		5 1/2	I	27KM	
TILOMAR	MANAI		7 1/2	II	7KM	

TOWN	TOWN	MT	HORSE	WALK	NO. TRIPS	DISTANCE
MAUCATOR	BeCO		5		1	25
BeCO	CASSA		6 1/2		1	32
CASSA	AINARO		3 1/2		1	17
AINARO	HATO-UDO		5 1/2		1	28
HATO-UDO	BETANO		5 1/2		11	28
BETANO	ALAS		3 1/2		11	17
ALAS	SAME		5		11	25
SAME	AINARO		11		1	55
AINARO	MAPE		6 1/2		1	32
MAPE	HATO-UDO		10		1	50
HATO-UDO	Same		6		1	30
ALAS	FATO-BERLIO		4		11	20
FATO-BERLIO	BARIQUE		9 1/2		11	48
BARIQUE	LACLUTA		4		1	30
LACLUTA	VIEQUEQUE		9		1	54
VIEQUEQUE	BEACO		2 1/2		11	16
VIEQUEQUE	OSSU		3		1	18
OSSU	MISSION			1/2	11	2
OSSU	HATO LARE		4 1/2		1	30
HATO LARE	VIEQUEQUE		6 1/2		11	32
OSSU	VINLALE		2 1/2		1	18
VINLALE	PLATEAU		4 1/2		1	30
PLATEAU	VINLALE		2 1/4		1	18

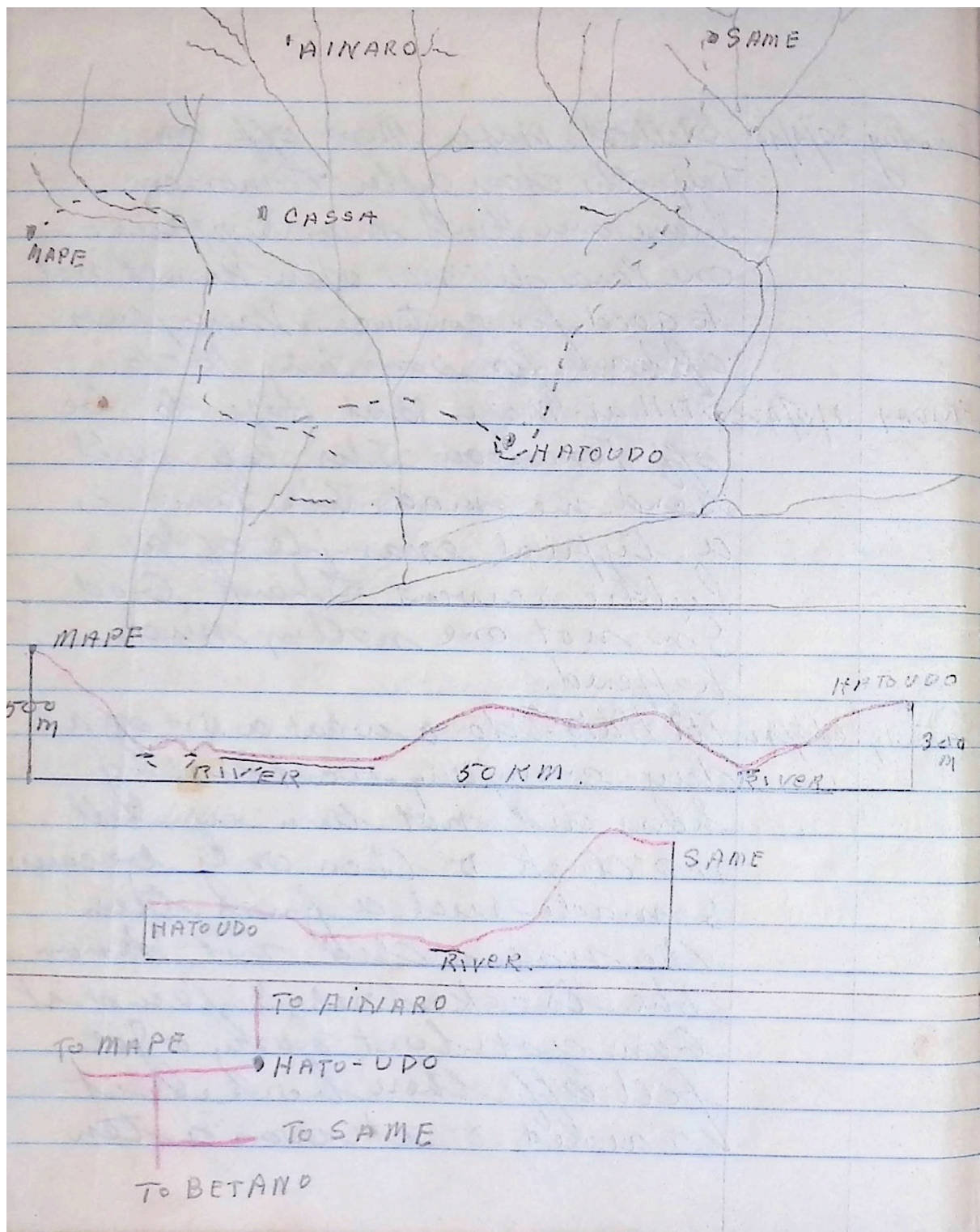
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Friday	17/4/42	Rested at Mape. Drew maps in lost book. Cold and wet – not like Darwin.
Saturday	18/4/42	Still at Mape. Discussed plans for another trip – 26 days away. Bit of a error because Brig[adier] cannot see the danger or understand the conditions. Will see what happens tomorrow. John Chisholm and Reed over for the day.

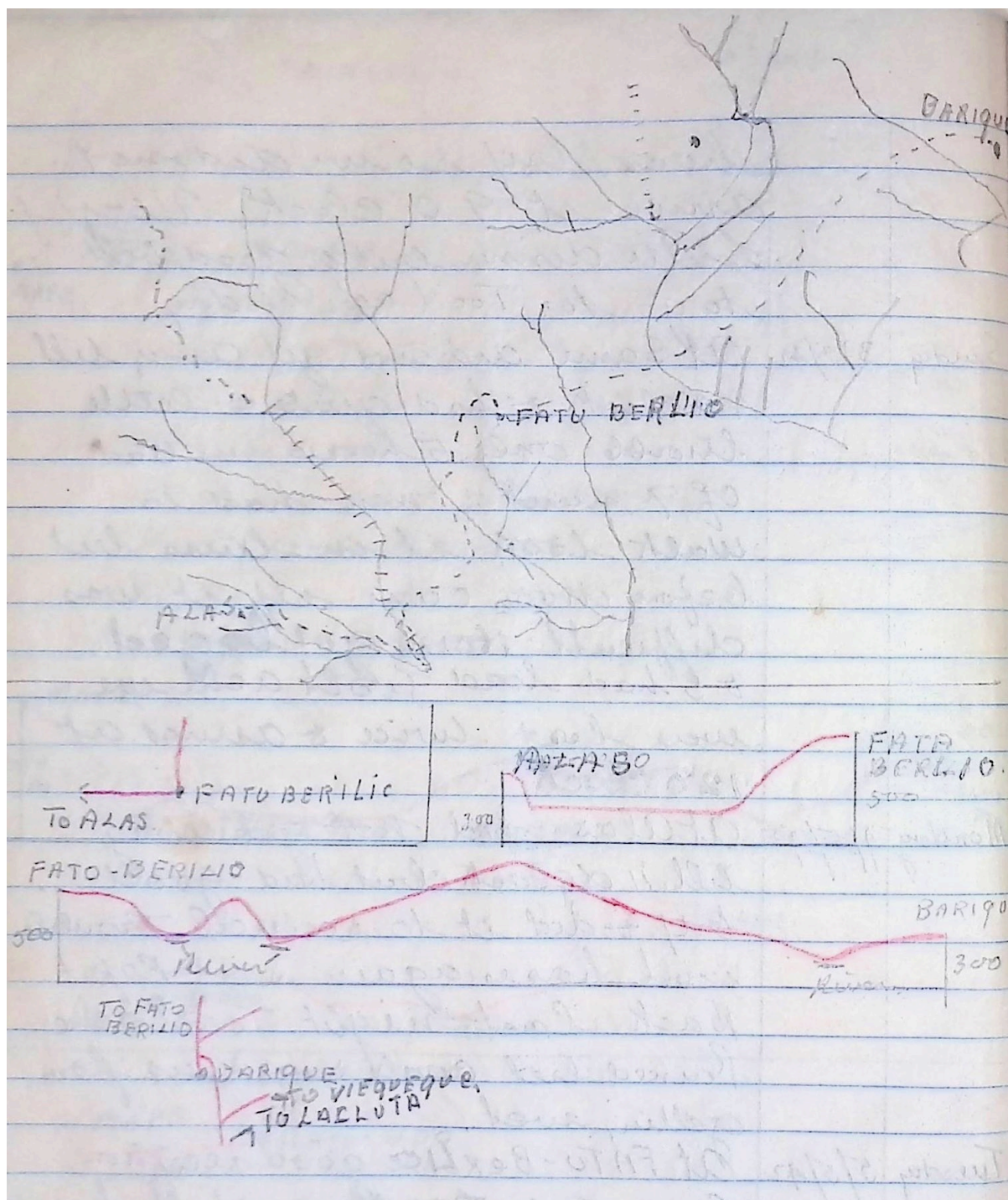
Sunday	19/4/42	Still at Mape. Wonderful news. George Parker contacted Darwin by radio – first time since the invasion. All the messages passed and plenty more being prepared. Spent all day coding messages. Nothing about my next trip.
Monday	20/4/42	Still at Mape. Spent all day coding messages. Very interesting but hard work. No news from Australia but hope to hear either tonight or tomorrow. Rained all day.
Tuesday	21/4/42	Still at Mape. Trip discussed but not settled – hope to settle tomorrow. Some news from Australia – have not yet heard what it is yet. They checked up on us yesterday or last night and are satisfied now. I wonder what will happen.
Wednesday	22/4/42	Still at Mape. Spent all day coding messages with the Brig – he made mistakes and s[elf] take the blame. Such is life. Contact still good going. Parker did a good job.
Thursday	23/4/42	Still at Mape. Had an interesting day. Got the battery charging plant to run on kerosene after decarbonising. Think we can get this. Nothing else happened.
Friday	24/4/42	Still at Mape. Got the battery charger to start on kerosene. Took a little time but have learnt the drill. Not feeling too well. Next trip discussed and leave on Sunday for a trip to take 26 days more or less – will finalise plans tomorrow.
Saturday	25/4/42	Still at Mape. Have all plans finalised for a 34 day trip. L. Ross comes all the way with me, and Cam Robinson and Joe Cloutt come part of the way. The trip is about 450 miles. Rather dangerous as we might miss evacuation or be taken by the Japs. The country we go to is unknown. Contact was again established with Australia tonight.
Sunday	26/4/42	Still at Mape. More delay – Laurie and party did not arrive till 1300 hrs. Also, we may be evacuated. A plane came over this morning but could not find us – it was too far inland. We hope it will call again tomorrow.
Monday	27/4/42	Still at Mape. Great news – an air plane from Australia flew over Beco at 1730 hrs and dropped us supplied – what they are we don't know but should some time tomorrow. Spent all day coding a message. Used the dummy to try to get a message across. Wonder if it will succeed. 5 para[chutes] and twelve parcels dropped.

Tuesday	28/4/42	Still at Mape. Very little doing. They have not found all the parcels yet. We sent a message asking what Australia's intentions are. Hope to hear tomorrow.
Wednesday	29/4/42	Still at Mape. Expected a plane. It did not turn up. Market day – a lot of natives in town. Was up till 0415 decoding a message from Australia telling us to go to hell [sic]. They will <u>blow</u> about getting us off.
Thursday	30/4/42	Still at Mape. Move on trip the day after tomorrow. Plane over with more supplies. One para did not open. Result not too good for contents. Drew plans of house for something to do.
Friday	1/5/42	Still at Mape. But hope to be off tomorrow. This life will send me mad. The Brig is a typical example of a public servant. Thank God I'm not one. Nothing much happened.
Saturday	2/5/42	At Hat-Udo. What a bugger of a day – everything went wrong. Horse did not arrive until 11 o'clock and then only because I made such a fuss. The natives did not know the track <u>Crack</u> . I found I could get lost. Larry and Joe fell off their horses. It rained and it was a 10 hour trip and we did not arrive it [sic] 9 o'clock. Very little dinner but a good bed to go to. Toothache all day.
Sunday	3/5/42	At Same – did not get away till 4 o'clock and had quite a little trouble. Only five horses instead of seven meant two men had to walk. Took it in turns, but before Moon came up it was difficult. Horse got bogged and had bad toothache. We were lost twice and arrived at 12 o'clock.
Monday	4/5/42	At Alas. Did not get away till 11 o'clock but had a good trip and did it to saddle trouble with horses again. Sent report back last night. Toothache. Raised <u>Red Bull</u> saved us from getting wet.
Tuesday	4/5/42	At Fatu-Berliu . Good reception. Good trip. Trouble with the horses but overcame this by taking yesterday's horses. Good trip. Hill to finish. Rolls and sweet coffee and at China store. Crossed river about eight times. To bed on mattress between sheets.



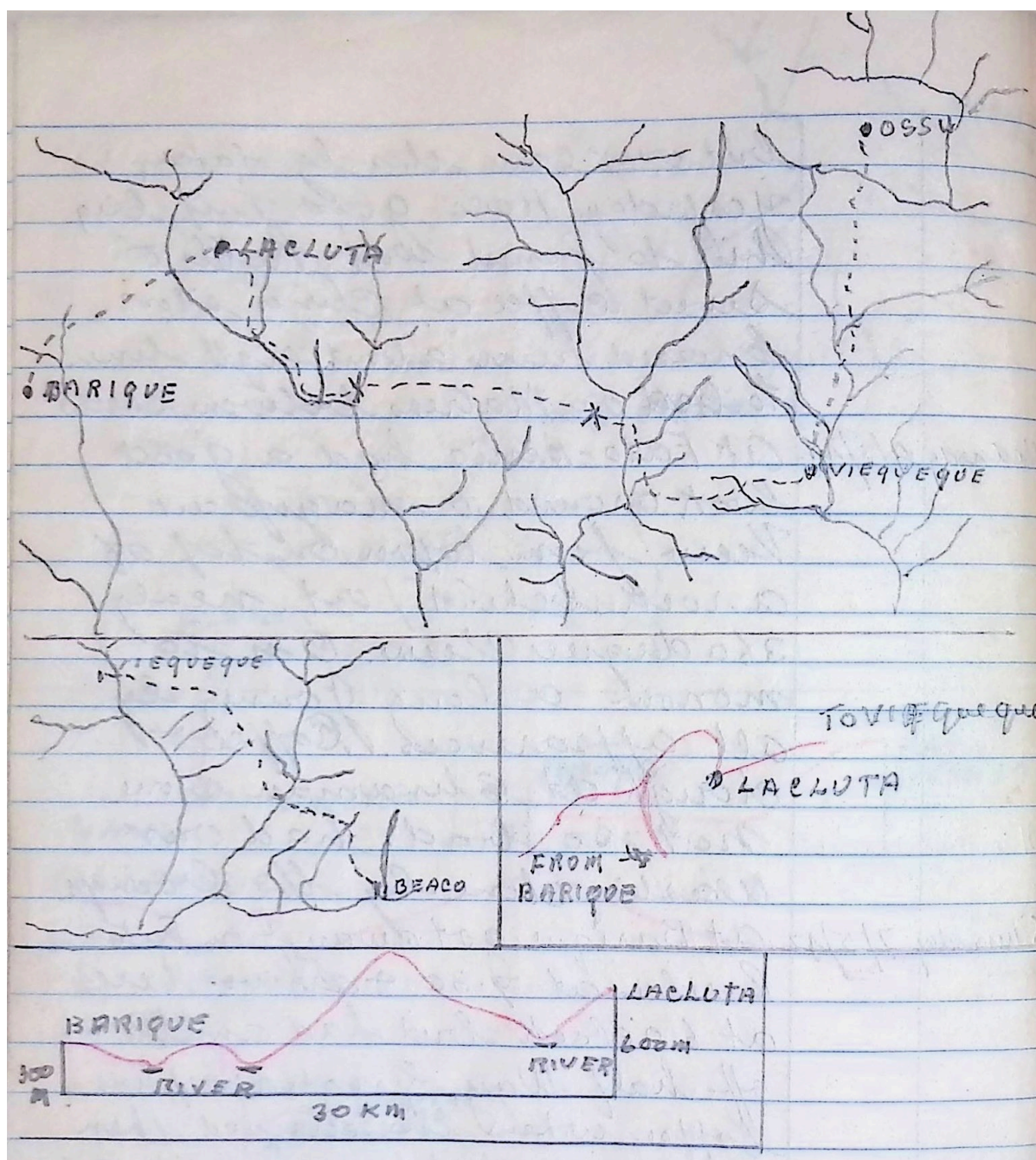
Wednesday	6/5/42	At Fatu-Berliu had a good look around and magnificent view from tower on top of a rock behind post – nearly 360° view. On tomorrow – a long journey by all appearances. Coffee and dough at Chinaman's store – not so bad. Had our washing done by the boongs.
Thursday	7/5/42	At Barique . Got away from Fatu-Berliu at 7.30 and arrived here at 6 o'clock but had an hour off half way. Great reception –

		coffee when we arrived then a dinner that was impossible to beat. Chicken, deer and an omelette – it was good. Saw some beautiful cedar trees as we came along. Also, a lot of big bamboo. Fell at place half way. Was given two live fowls for lunch. There we had half a <u>meal</u> each – bananas and coconut. Not so bad.
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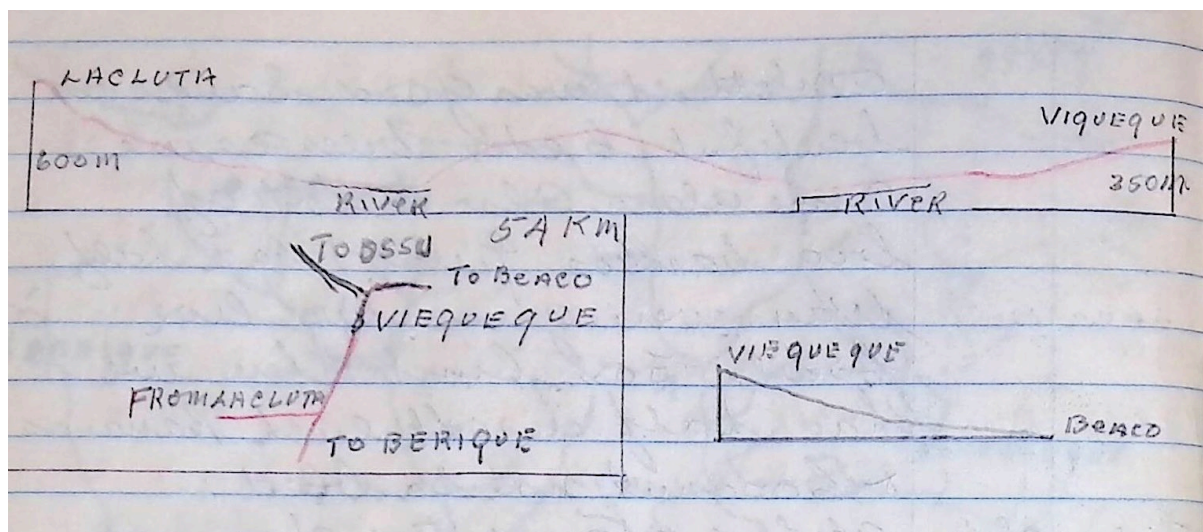
Friday	8/5/42	At Lacluta. Great trip – change of horses half way. Result 30 km in four hrs over the worst hill that we have been on as yet – the horse trotted up. <u>Rubber plantation here very interesting</u>. Meal
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		with good coffee and Porto wine. Great lunch and a cigar after were wonderful. Can see for miles from here to <u>Davi</u> to hills. Having to change our plans to go to Viqueque the day after tomorrow.
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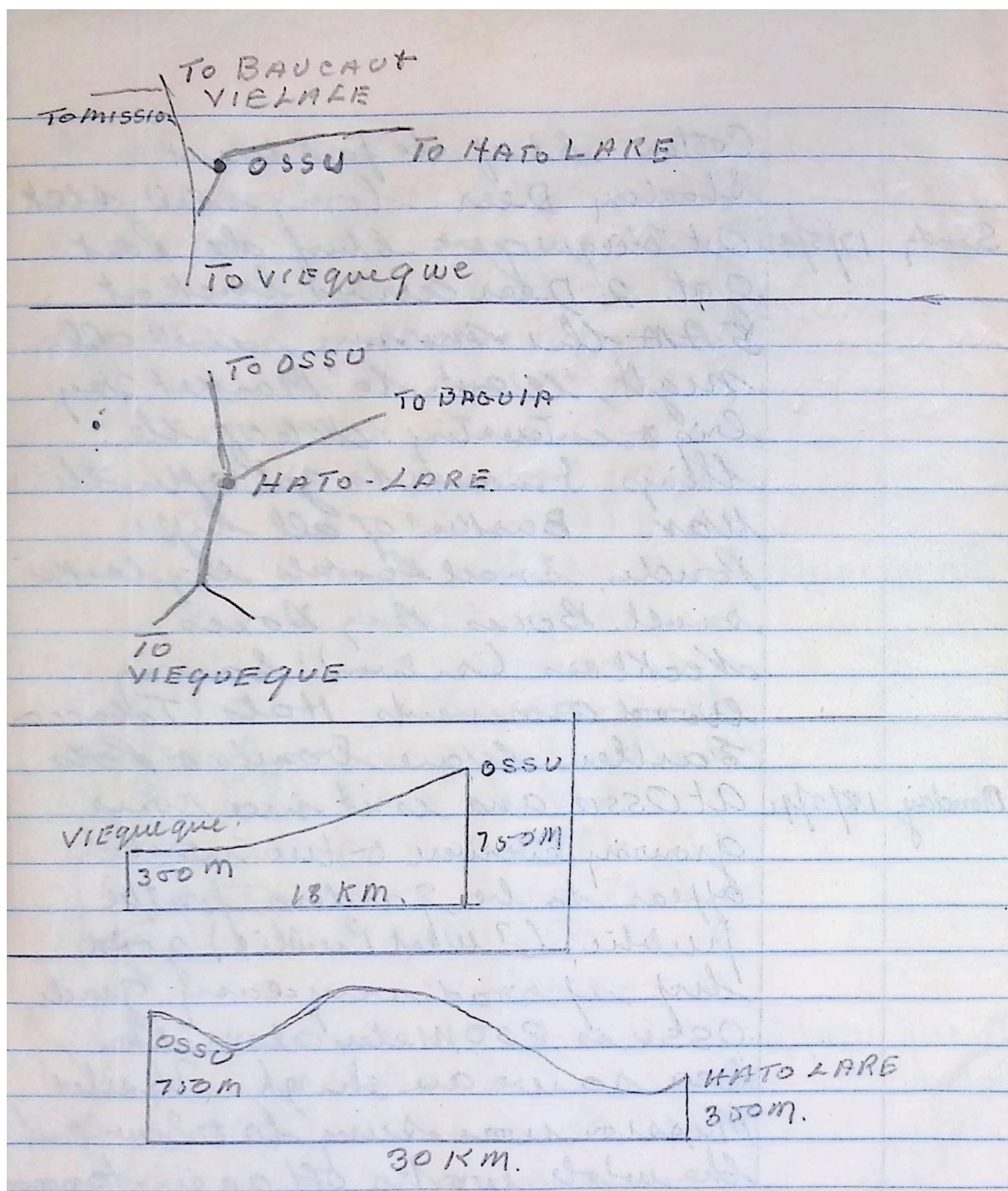
Saturday	9/5/42	At Lacluta. Rained all day and how about three inches or more. Saw them rolling the rubber into sheets. Fixed up all the paper work. Everything ready to move tomorrow to Viqueque.
Sunday	10/5/42	At Viqueque . Good trip – changed horses three times en-route so made fast trip. Rivers very high and our boots were afloat all day. Just missed a flood by one day.

		No rain – got away at 9 o'clock and arrived here at 6 o'clock. Listened to the BBC news. Had a talk with the administrator but did not understand him - will ring tomorrow. Something about the 16th. Very good reception. Just off to bed in pyjamas in a real bed.
Monday	11/5/42	At Viqueque. Had a good day – walked all around the town. Visited the Chinese store – bought cigarette papers, a blanket for 5.00 paper etc. Was taken up to the Post Office and saw a collection of native carvings etc. They are good – will get some of them before I go from here. Typed two pages of my report. Going to Beaco tomorrow.

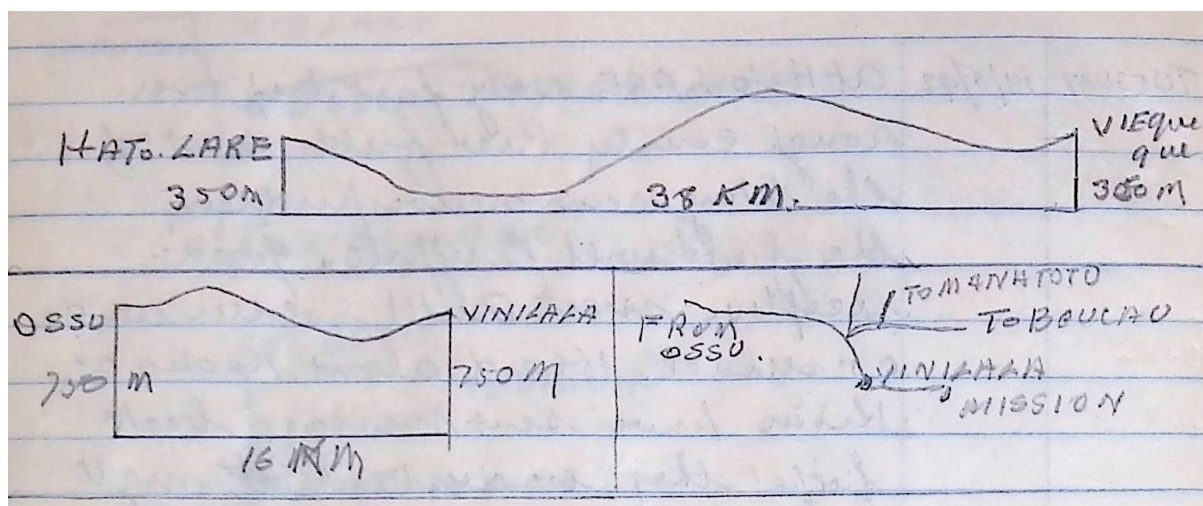


Tuesday	12/5/42	At Viqueque. Had a brief trip down to Beaco and back – very interesting – through rice fields most of the way. Saw first Porto road – quite good – well graded, etc. Saw Fordson tractor US, large quantities wood, cotton, <u>leafy</u> for export at Beaco. Gathering of the Porto clan at the Post yesterday. One man is great character – lived in Timor for 30 years. We hold long conversations by a few English, French, Porto words and a number of hand actions. Off to bed early as I am very tired.
Wednesday	13/5/42	Still at Viqueque. Finished report. Quite a good story. Sick – this country is hard to get better once you are sick. Expected the Administrator but he did not turn up. Played Rummy tonight – only game the Porto's know. Watched the native's family at the house and laying grass. Just as well labour is cheap.
Thursday	14/5/42	Still at Viqueque. Larry still very sick – shows no sign of recovery. Still waiting for Administrator. Will go to Baucau soon. Got name of Chief de Post – it is E.H. Vdy d'Oliveira. Gave

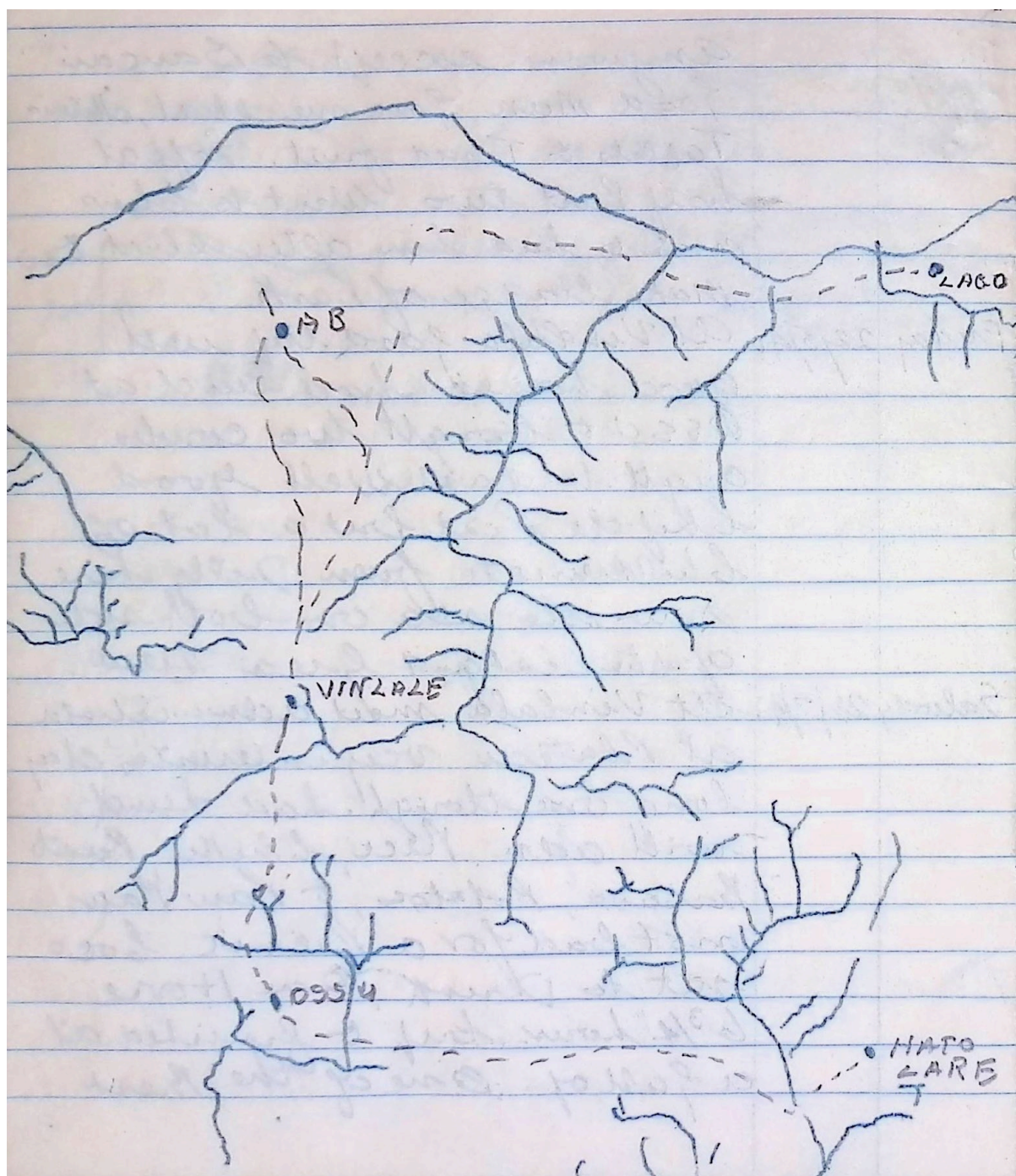
		me a <u>Kangroo</u> and promised to send anything I want after the war.
Friday Saturday	15/5/42 16/5/42	At Viqueque. Nothing much to say. Saw a blacksmith shop with bamboo blowers. Saw natives weaving and got sample of cotton.
Sunday	17/5/42	At Viqueque. Chief de Post got two deer. Arrived back at 5 am this morning – rained all night. Went to market – very big and interesting. Note of the things I want to get after the war. Baskets of all types, pouches, small baskets – big baskets. Small boxes – big boxes. Necklace (silver), sarong, wood ornaments, hats, tobacco, earthenware bowls and pots.
Monday	18/5/42	At Ossu and is it nice – roses growing everywhere and two what appear to be gardens for the public (what public?). Good bit of road – very easy grade. Ossu is 850 metres above the sea so we are high. Visited Mission – was sung dot sav [God save?] – the whole works. Off again tomorrow.
Tuesday	19/5/42	At Hato Lare [Uato-Lari (Leca)]. Very fast trip over rough country. Rice fields most of the way – saw natives puddling the fields with buffalo. Good reception – met Dutch soldier. Windy as usual. Heard about radio at Kisar. Have sent messages back – hope they understand – might have an interesting experience if they want it.
Wednesday	20/5/42	At Viqueque. Spoke to Administrator and decided to come back here. Cleared up the odds and ends and left at 12.30. A <u>watol</u> trip 6 1/2 hrs over bad country. Had good breakfast – rice, fried egg, fish and two types of meat. The Chief de Post at Hato Lare is full blood Timor and very good.
Thursday	21/5/42	At Viqueque. Had long talk with Administrator and have his permission to move anywhere except to Baucau. Good man – shirt, malaria tablets and tinned fruit. Left at half past two. Went to China man and had him alter shirt and make badge of rank.



Friday	22/5/42	At Venilale. Good trip with good horses. Had lunch at Ossu and bought two combs – ought to last well. Good Chief de Post but a lot of children, etc from Dili here. Saw the sea on both sides of the island – great view.
Saturday	23/5/42	At Venilale . Meet Administrator at plateau. Very interesting day – long one though. Had lunch with Administrator – rice, chicken roast, banana, potatoes and paw paw – not bad for a picnic. Coconut to drink. One horse. 63/4 hr trip and finished at a gallop. One of the best.

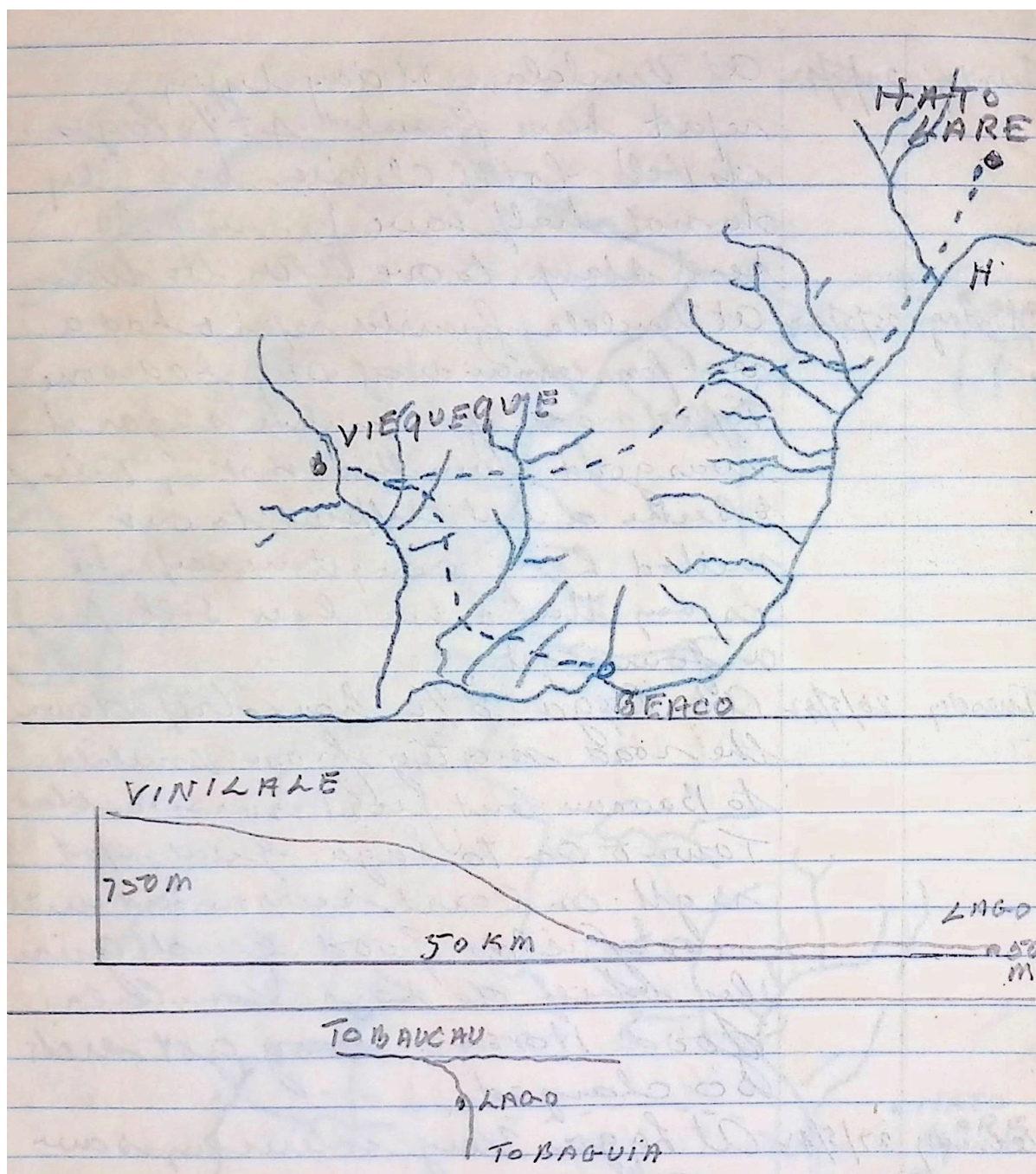


Sunday	24/5/42	At Venilale next day typing report – have finished 4 1/2 pages – its hell. Lot of children here – they do not help. Have promised to send stamp to one after the war.
Monday	25/5/42	At Venilale – finished report and had a rest remainder of day. Had some toffee made from native sugar – it was good. Saw them making bricks and tiles – a bit different from our method. Larry caught up – he is very thin and has been sick for a fortnight.
Tuesday	26/5/42	At Laga. 8 1/2 hour trip down. The road mostly from Venilale to Baucau but first missed that town – on to Laga. Great spot – right on coast surrounded with rice fields. Good lunch given by Chief de Post Venilale. Good horses. <u>Boy</u> got sick – so changed.



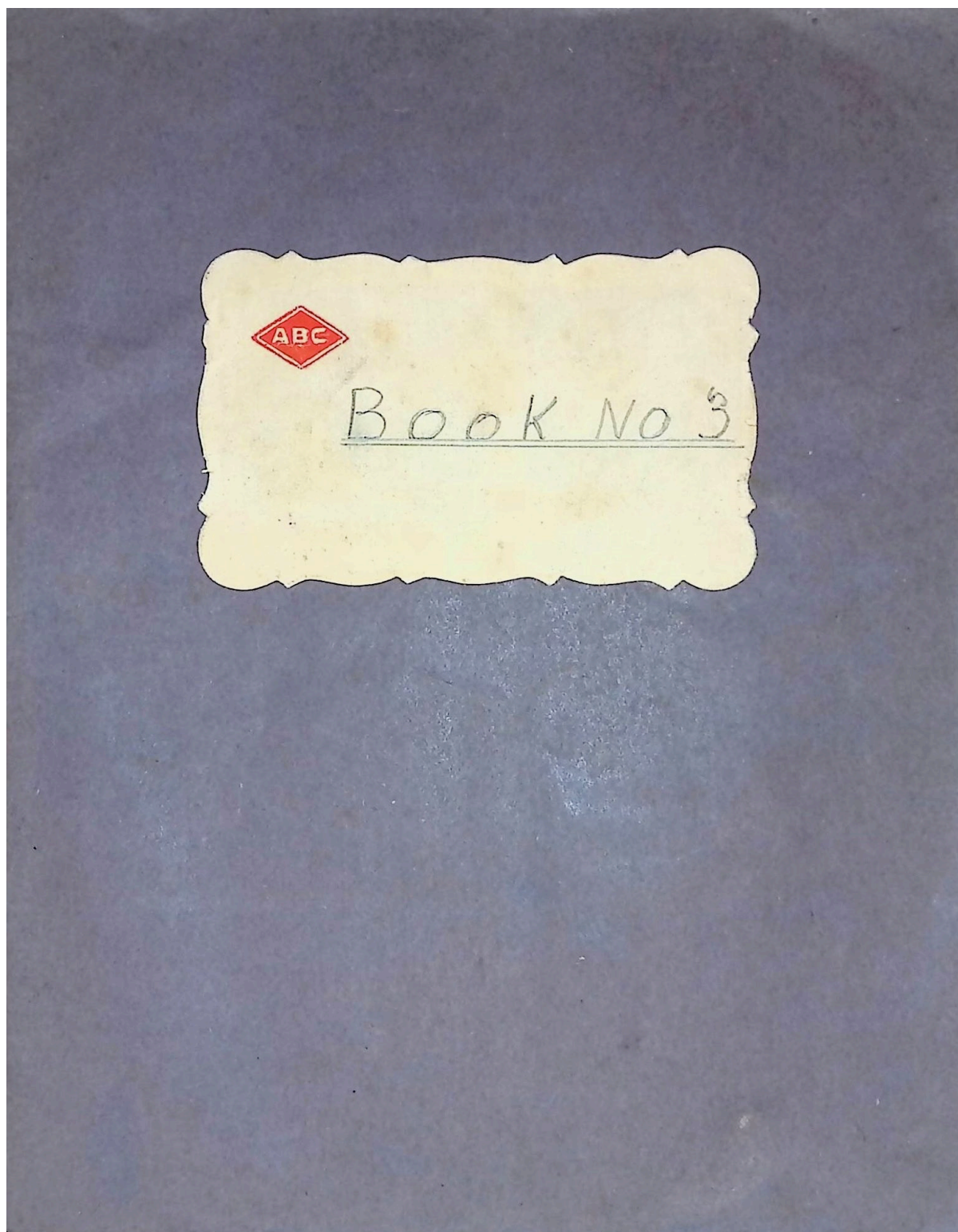
Wednesday	27/5/42	At Laga. Very interesting. Saw decent size boat – might take it yet. Were given a beautiful little bag and some photo of Portuguese Timor together with a map. There is a book here on Timor put out by the Asia Investment Co . Very good radio news – a home away from home. If they knew we were alright everything in the garden would be lovely.
Thursday	28/5/42	At Laga. Great day went for sail in morning in little canoe – quite good – would not tack but natives with paddles helped. Market day – saw a cock fight – boy from house rooster won – he was very pleased. Had whole suckling pig served for dinner –

		it was great. Had map covered China man. Repaired charging plant.
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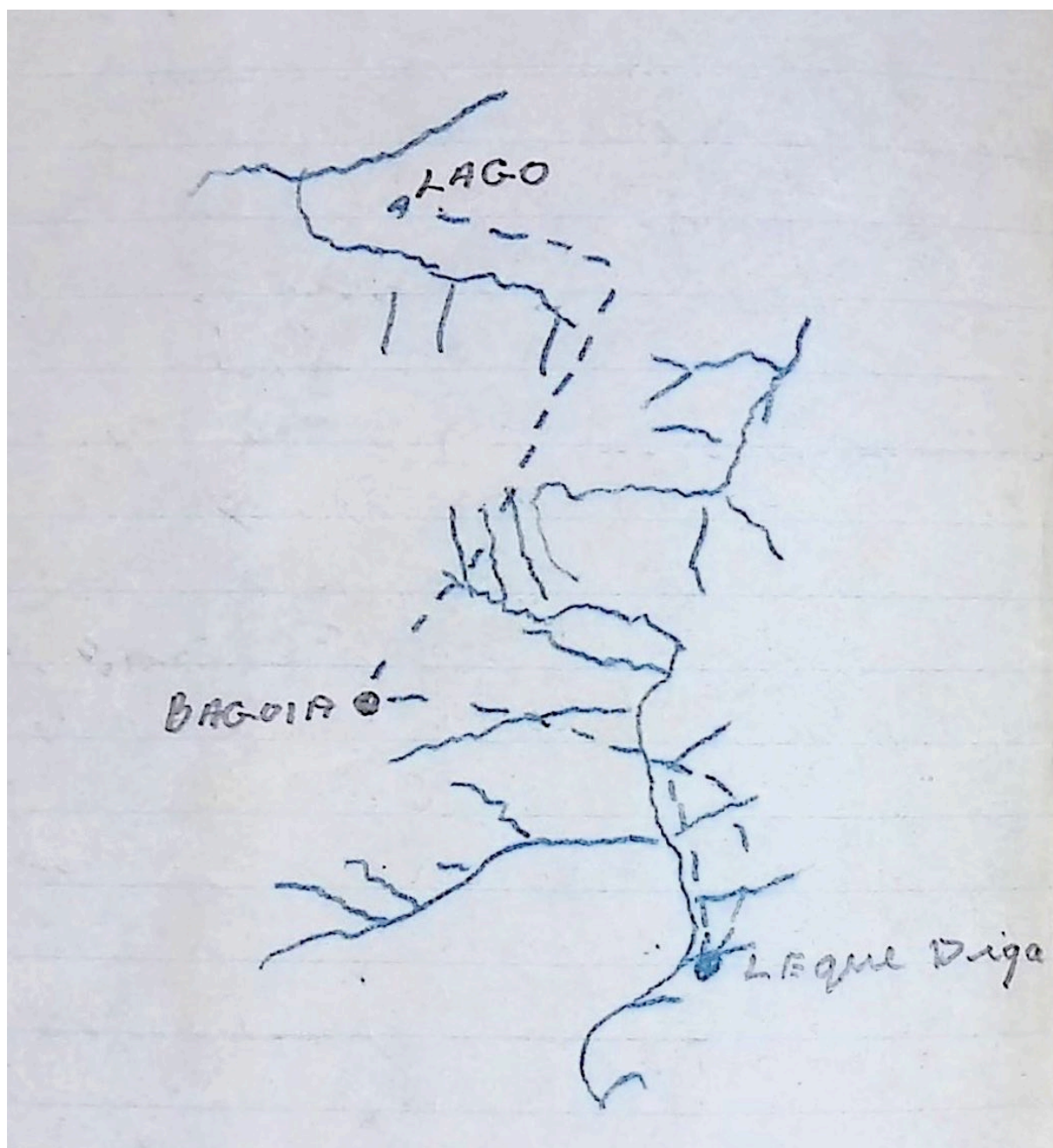
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		Antonio Jacinto dos Santos Ricardo

		Hospital Dili Timor
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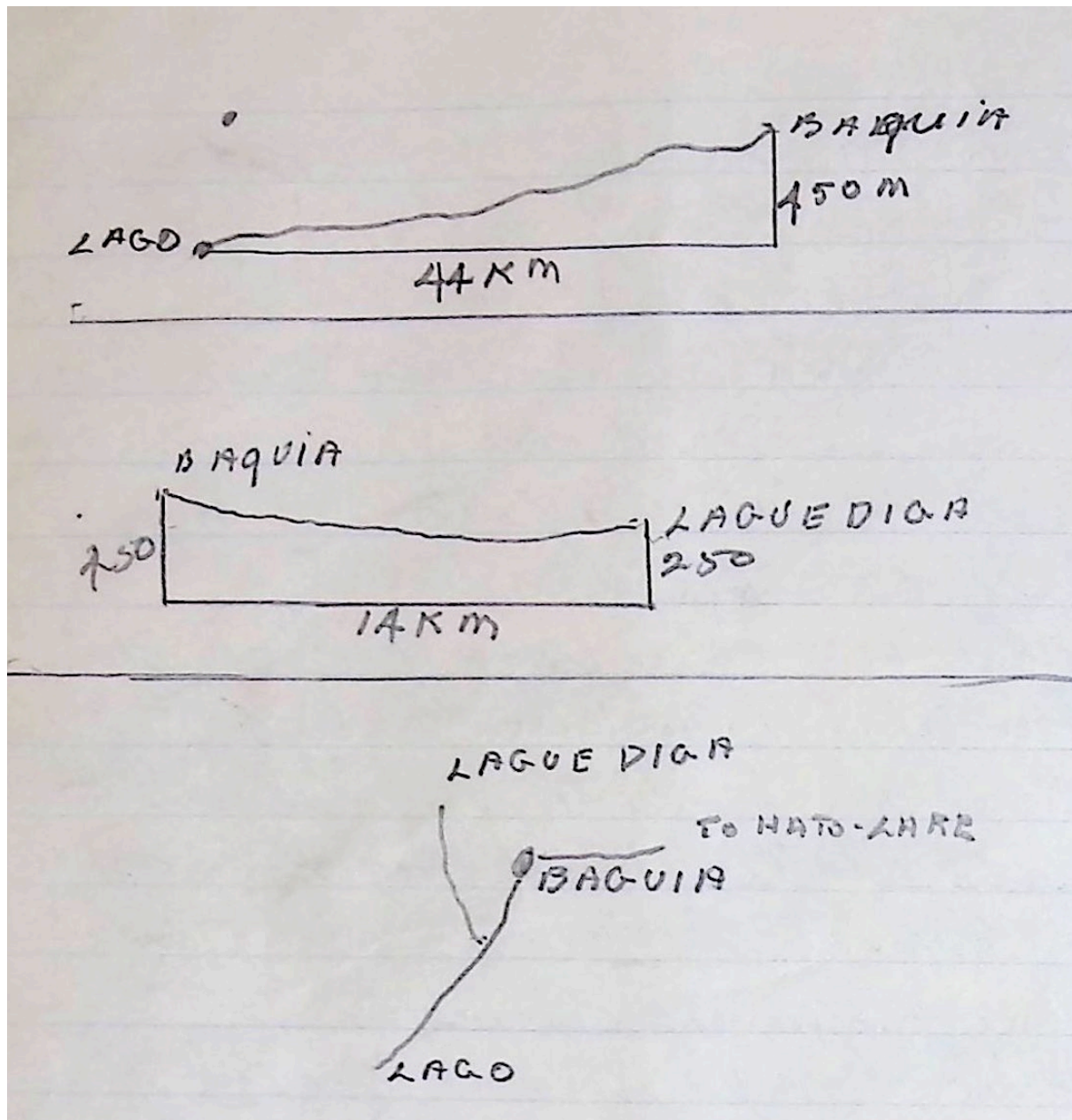
Saturday	30/5/42	At Laga. Larry sick again. Same sent ack[nnowledgement] to message instead of answer by native – messed everything up. Sent another message. Drawing all day.
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Sunday	31/5/42	At Laga. Larry on diet – he does not like it. Boat arrived from Kisar but no news from our friends.
Monday	1/6/42	At Laga. Had a look over the boat – not so bad. Wrote letter to Adm[inistrator] at Kisar. Boat left at 8 o'clock.
Tuesday	2/6/42	At Laga. Nothing happened today – just spent day looking at papers, etc and drawing plans. Still no news.
Wednesday	3/6/42	Moved to Baguia – fast trip. Good horses - I think the best I have ridden in Timor. Was guest of honour at cock fight but did not enjoy it. Chief de Post talks all the time and acts like a pig but is trying to help.
Thursday	4/6/42	At Baguia – nothing happened. Looked over school – large building about one mile from Post.
Friday	5/6/42	At Baguia – turned into landscape gardener and laid out garden – quite good in my opinion – on it all day. Nothing else happened.
Saturday	6/6/42	Went to Leque Diga for the day. Beautiful plantation – everything growing there. Great rise – good horse and enjoyed the day. Had pineapple for lunch. Got idea for cane chair – started design.
Sunday	7/6/42	Had wife made [?] platted from cane – very good. Still at Baguia. Finished design of chair but as Senior is sick will wait till tomorrow to show it to him. Designing house for Larry.
Monday	8/6/42	At Baguia – started manufacture of chair and Chief de Post started baskets for me. Message arrived from HQ but unintelligible so have decided to take boat around west coast. Leaving on the 12th. Wrote message accordingly to HQ.



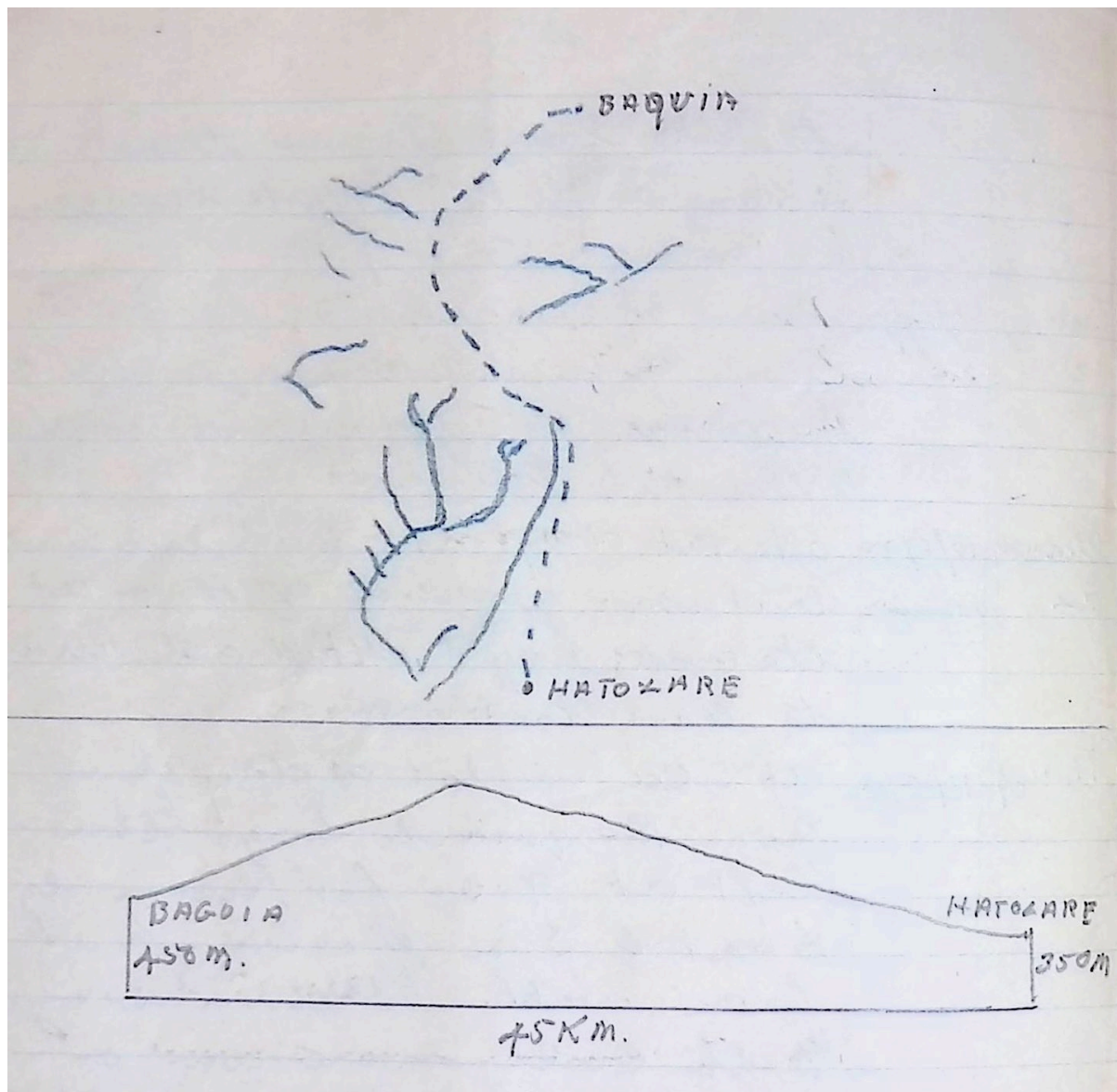
Tuesday	9/6/42	Sent message away by party bringing original message. Still at Baguia. Played around on chairs and baskets finished.
Wednesday	10/6/42	Market day – not much excitement but were guests of honour at cock fight. Made all arrangements to leave tomorrow.
Thursday	11/6/42	At sea – what a day. First from Baguia to Laga then left at 9.30 for Kisar by boat and I'm feeling far from well. Natives singing and the call every now and then for wind is good.
Friday	12/6/42	At sea still on our way to Kisar.

Saturday	13/6/42	At Kisar and what a night – the sea broke in all over us. Very ill – had to be carried – too ill to work.
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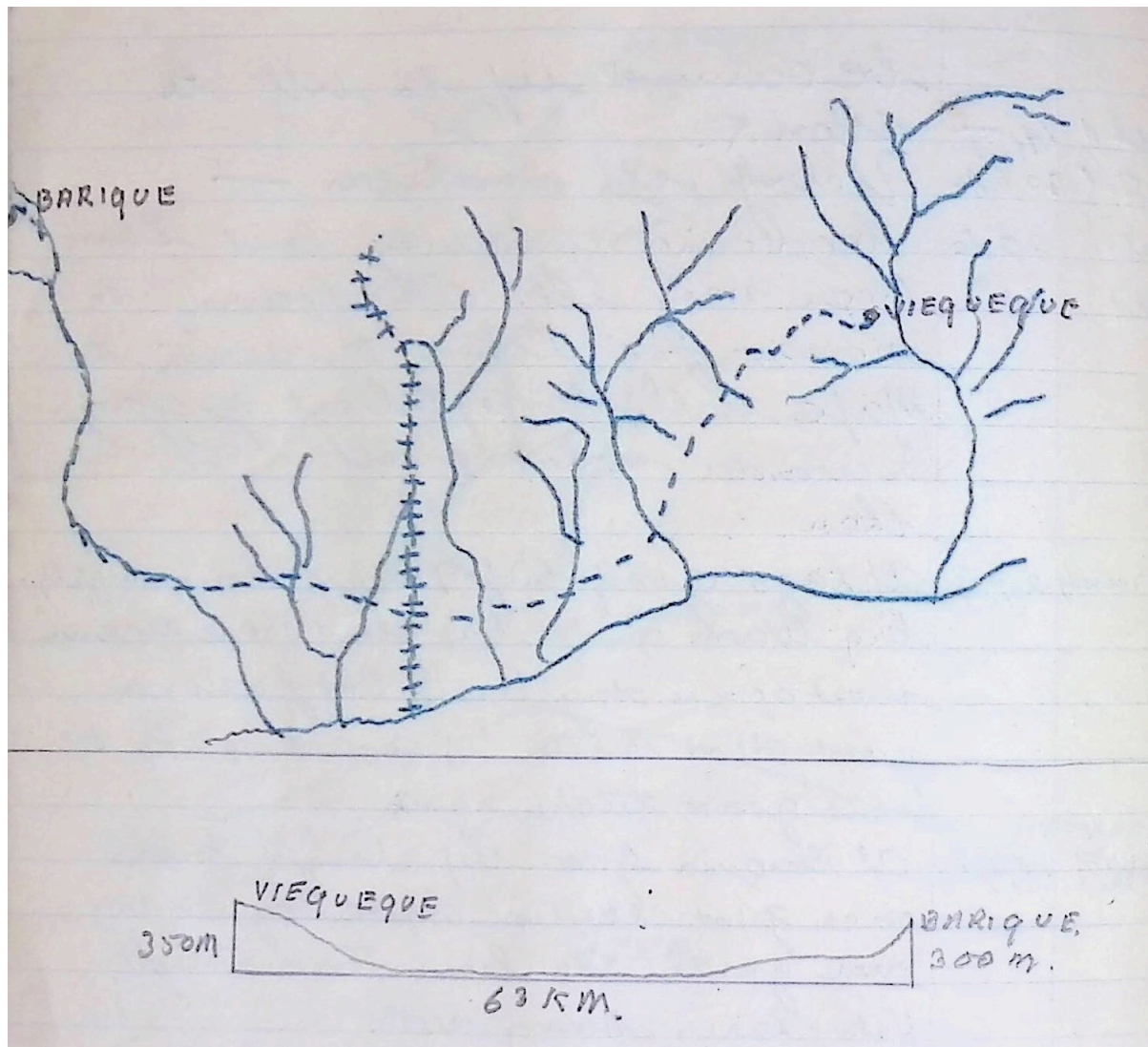
Sunday to Saturday	14/6/42 to 20/6/42	Very ill – malaria.
Sunday to Wednesday	21/6/42 to 24/6/42	Recovering gradually but have been very ill. Am leaving tomorrow for Timor and return to Mape – will take about ten days. I wonder what will happen then.
Thursday	25/6/42	At Laga – good trip – nine hours – some mighty waves on the trip. Laid out in the sun most of the day – burnt but feeling a great deal better. Good reception and some good tucker again.

Friday	26/6/42	At Baguia – good trip – changed horses once – great reception. Spent day looking over garden, etc. Leave tomorrow for Hato-Lari. Moving well.
Saturday	27/6/42	At Hato-Lari – long hard trip – worst track I have been on – very hilly, steep and muddy. Good reception. Wonderful scenery. Good horses – no change. Finished at a canton.



Sunday	28/6/42	At Viqueque – good fast trip – very muddy – met Administrator who gave me a pair of boots – must send him something when I get home – have agreed to try and send some money to Portugal. Had music from a guitar tonight – very nice.
Monday	29/6/42	At Barique – long day – 12 hrs of which 10½ were spent travelling. Great lunch at Lacluta – rice, boiled fowl, stewed

		fowl, omelette, oranges, bananas, paw paw, peanuts, coconut. Not bad. Long trip – 3 1/2 hrs up river – last part in darkness.
Tuesday	30/6/42	At Barique – rested up. Luggage did not turn up till one o'clock. Had washing done and spent rest of day superintending the drying – finished in the kitchen near stove – they are still not dry. Nothing else happened – just filled in day as best we could.

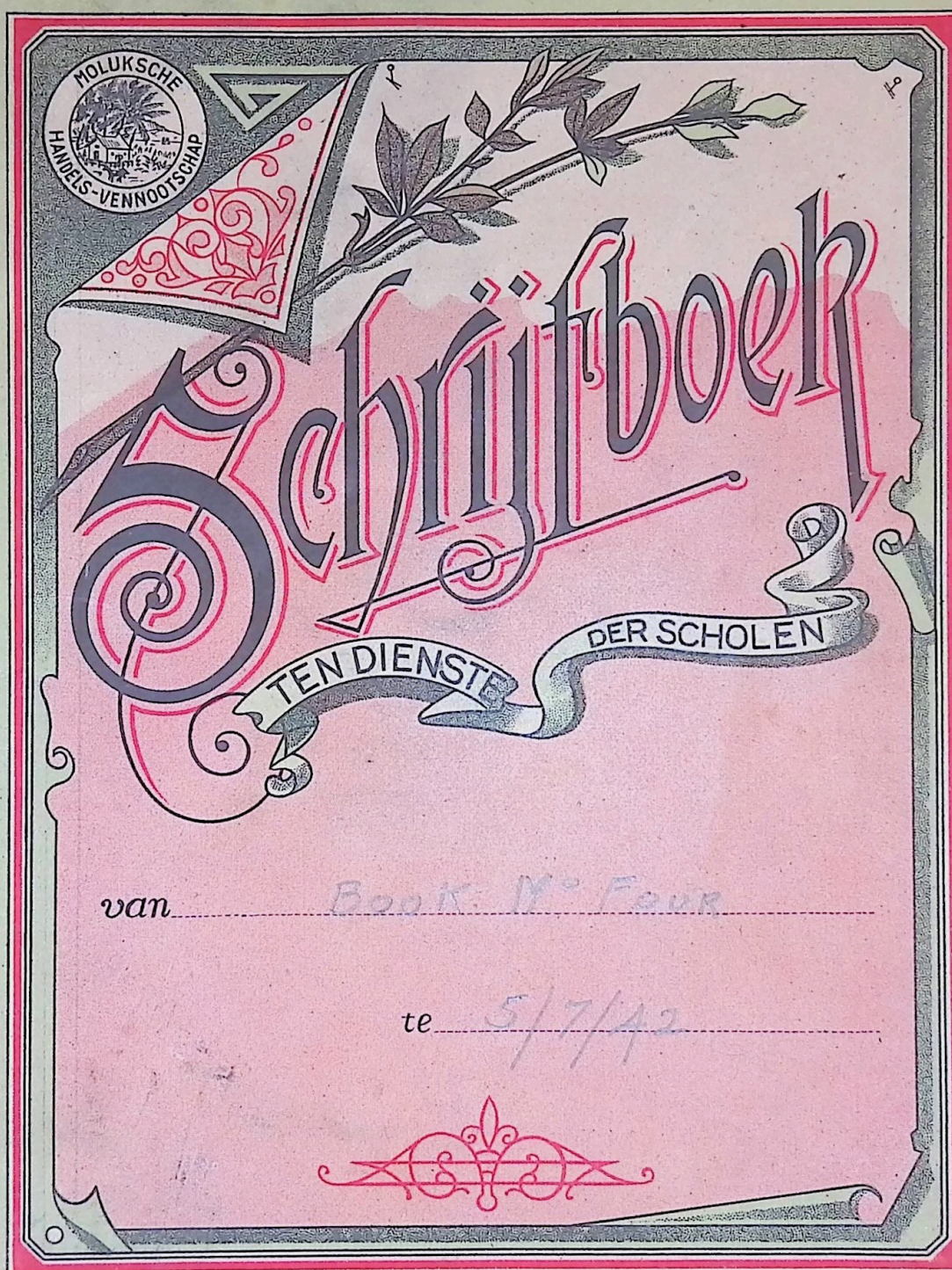


Wednesday	1/7/42	At Fatu Berliu and what a day. Everything good for half the journey. Got away at 7 o'clock and all went well. At 12 o'clock changed horses and had bananas and then the trouble started. We got lost twice – once for 1 1/2 hrs and so we did not get here till 7 o'clock. The Wild West had nothing on our trip through the bush.
Thursday	2/7/42	At Betano – best day so far. Took only 5 hrs for trip scheduled to take 8. Good horse to Alas and the same to here. Good lunch at Alas. All Australians gone but spoke to some at Same on the telephone. Back of trip broken – should finish up well.

		Did not get away till 8.30 but that is of no consequence. Got invited to a Porto deportados house and lived on the fat of the land. Good bed, evening meal and everything to order.
Friday	3/7/42	At Hatu-Udo and what a trip – trouble with the natives all the way. We were to change half way but after waiting 1½ hours I insisted on going on. No lunch. Met Mr Ross here from Dili.
Saturday	4/7/42	At Mape – back on time. Found a new track from Hatu-Udo which is much shorter so made better time. Good reception on my return. Col[onel] [Spence] was advised of the birth of a daughter at 12 o'clock so we wet its head with a bottle of champagne that had been held here for months.

Continued from Book II

TOWN FROM	TOWN TO	MT	H	W	NO OF TRIPS	DISTANCE
VINIZALIA	LAGO		8½		1	56
LAGO	BAGUIA		5		111	44
BAGUIA	LEQUE DIGA		1½		11	14
LAGO	KISSAR	8 32			1	70
KISSAR	LAGO	9			1	70
BAGUIA	HATOLARE		7		1	45
VIEQUEQUE	BARIQUE		10½		1	63
HATO-AUDO	MAPE		8		1	40



Sunday	5/7/42	At Mape – funny day. Wrote letter home. Fixed parcels for home. Gave verbal report and started on written report.
Monday	6/7/42	Party left for beach at 9 o'clock. G. Arnold is going back but he did not tell me. Dutch Consul and wife arrived from Dili and went to Beco. Malaria started in the afternoon.

Tuesday	7/7/42	At Mape. In bed all day with malaria.
Wednesday	8/7/42	At Mape. Finished writing report. Boat came from Australia and left three hours later on its return journey. Think I might be on of the trips soon.
Thursday	9/7/42	At Mape. Report started typing. Started to straighten room. Received hello from home!!! Veale fixed it. He is not as bad as he might be. Letter arrived at 10 o'clock.
Friday	10/7/42	At Mape. Finished room and report. Fixed things for a trip to Bobonaro I think.
Saturday	11/7/42	At Mape. Nothing doing all day. Designed a tray which I hope to get made – ought to be a good souvenir.
Sunday	12/7/42	At Mape. Very quiet day. Sat up late helping with war diary which is being brought up to date.
Monday	13/7/42	At Mape. Quiet day. CO and Ray came from Bobonaro. Things look like happening.
Tuesday	14/7/42	At Mape. Making plans for another trip – about a month away. Wrote letter home. William going home. Wonder when we will.
Wednesday	15/7/42	At Hatu-Udo. Good trip – still as bad as it ever was. Chief de Post away thank goodness. No food for Timors. Had <i>Quina</i> at Chinese.
Thursday	16/7/42	At Nurtur. Rotten day – rained early. Breakfast at Chinese – rice <i>Medicinal</i> . Hard to get meals here – only corn and eggs or chicken are appetising. Walked along the beach for two hours – some more tomorrow.
Friday	17/7/42	At Betano. Did traces of beach in the morning and then on up here to make map and write report. Had row with Jack Chisholm re reading of report. Breakfast and other meals at deportado's house – good. 2 Ind Coy lads here.
Saturday	18/7/42	At Fatu Berliu. Terrible day – wet through right from the start. I went ahead to Mission at Alas and arranged for horses. The others did not turn up till 2 o'clock so we got away at 3 o'clock. A good lunch – final bit in dark – last 1 1/2 hrs in rain. Chief de Post away – so had tea at Chinese. Was feeling very ill so went to bed. Heard two Australian planes over at Atlas.

Sunday	19/7/42	At Barique. Long day – bad horses but was feeling better. Arrived here just at dark. C de P away but a good feed. No rain but track was very wet.
Monday	20/7/42	At Viqueque. Worst day we have ever had – 12 hrs riding. Lost for an hour or more. Had terrific pain in back – could not move when I arrived. At lunch at Luca. Killed and cooked while we watched. Arrived here at 9.15 – great reception.
Tuesday	21/7/42	At Viqueque. Had a rest all day. Was given some lovely baskets by Chief de Post. Corporal got his guitar from Ossu, so we had music.
Wednesday	22/7/42	At Beaco. Good trip. Royalty had nothing on us with the reception given by the natives – finished up a beautiful day.
Thursday	23/7/42	At Hato Lare. Good day – went to Aliambata where C de P had sent lunch. Did not see oil wells. Bad horses on last part of trip. Wedding anniversary – wonder what is happening at home.
Friday	24/7/42	At Ossu. The worst trip I've ever had – went so slow I thought the horses would fall over. Great lunch when we arrived – the tea of omelette 11½ hrs later and dinner 1 hr later again – the last one stuffed me. Radio new not so bad.
Saturday	25/7/42	At Ossu. Day of rest. Had some lovely sarongs, etc given to us by Port[ugese] Sgt. Felt off colour all day.
Sunday	26/7/42	At Viqueque. Not much of a day. Got malaria at night. Bought a few curios.
Monday	27/7/42	At Barique. Best journey this trip – fast three horses. Bought some leapers at Luca. Chief de Post back. Good reception. Saw deer very close.
Tuesday	28/7/42	At Soibada. Good track – very steep. Changed horses three times – so horses were OK. Good reception but no going to the Mission – taken to natives' house. Hot bath, bed with mattress and a sheet. Cold food and cold air – Black and White whiskey and cigar.
Wednesday	29/7/42	At Alas. Lunch at Fatu Berliu. Good day – very steep trip for first bit but good for last two hours. Staying at Mission – had the scholars sing to us.
Thursday	30/7/42	At Same. Could not get horses so had to walk. Slipped on rocky river and dislocated fingers. Good reception – met with Chief de Post who gave me sarong.

Friday	31/7/42	At Ainaro. Rotten day – rained all the time. Finger sore, then to cap it got lost just out of here. A Timor brought us in. Good dinner. Had my finger fixed.
		August 1942
Saturday	1/8/42	At Mape. Good trip – missed the rain all the way. Very full house here with visitors from o/s and local. Things seem much the same as when we left. Received five letters from my wife, children and three from mother – all dated February. Also, one urgent wire dated 23rd February. Finger better but still painful.
Sunday	2/8/42	At Mape. Was told after lunch that I was to be returned to Australia on the next boat and that I would be  ship again. Started to repack but slow job. Bought some Pataca notes for poker chips – they ought to be good. Played poker – won 3/3 so that was alright.
Monday	3/8/42	At Mape. Very quiet day – just poked about. Played poker at night and won about 4/- so things are looking up. Rained all day.
Tuesday	4/8/42	At Mape. Was advised to move to Cumnassa tomorrow so spent all day getting my gear in order. Played bridge at night – Jack Chisholm and I won by a 1000 pts.
Wednesday	5/8/42	At Cumnassa . Very fast trip. Lunch at Beco. Good welcome from Senor Lopes. Ride around plantation.
Thursday	6/8/42	At Cumnassa. Quiet day. Went to Suai for look around in the morning. Some good horses. Was given two very good sarongs and some other goods by Senor Lopes who asked me for some pattern books for his daughter.
Friday	7/8/42	At sea. Quiet day waiting for boat. It arrived at 5.30 and we embarked at left at 8 o'clock. The 'Vigilant' small boat but good.
Saturday	8/8/42	At sea. Just rested all day. Nothing exciting happened.
Sunday	9/8/42	At Darwin. Arrived at 12 o'clock just as air raid alarm was given – all clear was given half an hour later. Did not land until 4 o'clock and then taken straight to hospital. Thought we were off at 11 o'clock but it was a false alarm

FROM	TO	MT	horse	WALK	HRS	Km.	Remarks.
MAPE	HATO HUDO		7 1/4			42	1
HATO HUDO	NOTUR		3 1/2			20	1
NOTUR	BETANO		2			12	1
BETANO	ALAS		2 3/4			20	1
ALAS	Fato Berlio		4			20	11
FATO BERLIO	Berique		9			52	1
Berique	Viqueque		12			63	1
Viqueque	Beaco		2 1/2			15	1
BEACO	ALIAMBATA		4 1/2			25	1
ALIAMBATA	HATO LARE		1 1/4			7	1
HATO LARE	OSSU		5 3/4			27	1
OSSU	VIQUEQUE		2 3/4			17	1
VIQUEQUE	BERIQUE		9			54	1
BERIQUE	SOIBADA		5			25	1
SOIBADA	FATO BERLIO		4			20	1
Alas	Same		8	5		25	1
SAME	FINARO		11			45	1
FINARO	MAPE		6			30	1
MAPE	BECO		3			20	1
Beaco	CAMPANASSA		2			18	1

Jose G. Cantara Balda
Brig de Post

Laguina
Vinos



Transcribed by Edward Willis

Revised: 28 December 2024