



Dictionaries
of
Papua New Guinea
Volume 3

Compiled by
M.D. Stringer and J.M. Hotz
Tok Pisin additions by
Sibaamo Punuqo

Waffa
Tok Pisin
English

SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS
Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea

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Preface

English

In an isolated valley at the headwaters of the Waffa River in the Kratke Ranges the small group of Waffa people live. This valley is in the Kaiapit district of the Morobe Province. There are approximately 1,200 speakers with slight dialectical differences among them. The exception to this is found in the village of Urint. The eighty speakers in this village do not speak the central dialect used in this publication. The Waffa language is a member of the Eastern Family of the East New Guinea Highland Stock.

Presently there are no government schools among the Waffa speaking people. The primary purpose of this dictionary is to give the readers of the vernacular help in understanding Tok Pisin, and some comparison of English when they have an opportunity to learn it. This volume will also help to preserve the language and culture of the Waffa people.

This is not a complete dictionary but an attempt to record vocabulary which was collected during field work undertaken from 1962 to 1974 under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, Ukarumpa, Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea.

Special mention must be made of the help given by Joyce Hotz, who collated and typed the preliminary copy of the Waffa - English, English - Waffa dictionary. Many Waffa people helped in this initial compilation and we express our thanks to them. Sibaamo Punuqo spent long hours checking this copy and adding the Tok Pisin equivalents. Others who specifically helped in checking were Yavaaso Suaato, Quaaso Fuaako and Tidava Karingo.

The Jacaranda Dictionary and Grammar of Melanesian Pisin by F. Mihalic S.V.D. was used for checking Pidgin spelling and meaning. Since many Waffa words have no equivalent meaning in Tok Pisin, phrases have been coined to express these. Where this has been done there will be obvious areas for improvement. It is

to be hoped that in the future more Waffa people will have access to formal education and will be inspired to make a revision adding to the vocabulary and improving both the Tok Pisin and English meaning equivalents.

It is expected that the readers of this book will be Waffa speakers so there has been no attempt to include grammatical features in the dictionary entries. A description of the grammar can be obtained from the following unpublished papers in the files of the Technical Studies Office, Summer Institute of Linguistics, Ukarumpa, Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea.

Stringer, Mary and Joyce Hotz, 1971. Waffa Syntax--Clauses.

Stringer, Mary and Joyce Hotz, 1969. Waffa Syntax--Verbs and Verb Phrases.

Hotz, Joyce and Mary Stringer, 1970. Waffa Sentence, Paragraph and Discourse.

Hotz, Joyce and Mary Stringer, 1969. Nominal Slotfillers in Waffa.

Information on the phonemes and noun suffixation can be found in the following papers.

Stringer, Mary and Joyce Hotz, 1971. Waffa Phonemes, Te Reo 14:42-8. Also in Howard McKaughan (ed.), The Languages of the Eastern Family of the East New Guinea Highland Stock, pp. 523-9.

Stringer, Mary and Joyce Hotz, 1971. The Occurrence and Cooccurrence of Waffa Noun Suffixes, Te Reo 14:49-62. Also in Howard McKaughan (ed.), The Languages of the Eastern Family of the East New Guinea Highland Stock, pp. 547-50.

Details of kinship may be obtained from the following paper.

Hotz, Joyce and Mary Stringer, 1974. Waffa Social Structure: The Individual in the Group. In R. Daniel Shaw (ed.), Kinship Studies in Papua New Guinea, pp. 79-95.

The Table of Contents gives a listing of the categories which are included in the Appendices. To reduce the size of the volume it was not considered necessary to list all of the separate names in the dictionary. Only names of trees, frogs etc. with some particular significance have been entered. A full listing of birds with English and scientific names is included in the Appendices.

Entries of verbs in the Waffa-English section are in the third person singular, present or near past tense and declarative mood. In the English-Waffa section a further form in the singular imperative mood is included to help the non-Waffa reader to determine the class of the verb. All imperative forms have primary stems. Multiple stress has also been included here for non-Waffa readers. In the previous sections where stress is not written certain entries appear as the same form. Each word has different stress which can be determined in context.

Reduplication in Waffa intensifies in some way, i.e. by prolonging the action, making something stronger, making distance greater or smaller. Reduplicated forms are shown in brackets along with the basic forms and not listed as separate entries.

Waffa

Aa yanaa aavaara rikiaanee

Fai gioonna kiaapu Vuafaaqa variyaiya aa yanaa aavaki ngiari kuaivaa yaarida Pisiina kuaivaatama yaarida arinaima teeda rikiaaravai. Fai Ingiriisa sukuuraki kuaiya Ingiriisa kuaivaatama yaarida arinaima teeda rikiaaravai.

Vuafaaqaiya varira aataruuyauvoota iya kua tiraiyauvootama aa yanaa aavaki vaiyauvaa yapooma variaaraiya fai yaarida arinaima rikiaaravai.

Suaisoono toosa hara Vuafaaqa kuaivaatama Ingiriisa kuaivaatama aa yanaa aavaki reeravai. Ta ivaara innara yoketaa kuaivaa kiaunnano. Mereevaataama inna tasipama varioo aa mmoori aavaa iiravai. Kaayau gioonna kiaapu Vuafaaqa vooyaataama kua vooyauvi Suaisaya Mereeya kiaa mmuduu rooyaraatama ta yoketaavee kiaunnano. Sibaamo Punuqo hokoba suaiyauvaa aa yanaa aavaara varioo Vuafaaqa kuaivaa safuuma roo Pisiina kuaivaatama reeravai. Taaravooma vaidiiyaatama ivaara mmoori vareeravai. Iya nmutuudaa rikiaanee. Yavaaso Suaato, Quaaso Fuaako, Tidava Karingo.

Phonological Sketch

The phonemes of the Waffa language consist of eighteen consonants and five vowels. The system is divided in the following way.

Voiced prenasalized stops b, d, g, and
voiceless non-prenasalized stops p, t, k,
(unaspirated) and q [ʔ].

Voiced oral fricative v [b] and
voiceless oral fricatives f [p], s and h.

Sonorant nasals m, n, ng [n] and
obstruant nasals mm [m], nn [ñ].

Semivowel y and vibrant r [r̃].

There are five vowels, i, u, e, a, o.

How to use the Dictionary

This is how you can use the dictionary. There are four parts to this book. The first part is like this. Waffa words are on the left side, Tok Pisin words are in the middle and English words are on the edge. The middle part is like this. Tok Pisin words are on the left side and Waffa words are on the right side. The next middle part is like this. English words are on the left side and Waffa words are on the right side. Amongst those words there are some other Waffa words. They are there to help people who do not speak Waffa, to understand it. The last part is like this. There are names of many Waffa things, clan names and a map of Waffa land.

There are signs in this book you must understand. This mark /, when it is with Waffa words, says that there are two words almost the same which have the same meaning. When this mark / is with English words it says that the meanings of the Waffa word are slightly different. When you see writing like this, (see: aavaa) you look for that Waffa word in another part of the dictionary. The meanings of the two words are the same or just about the same. When you see writing like this, (see: Appendix 1 (2)) look at the back of the book to find the same number then read what is written with that word.

Aa yanaa aavaki dataama vai kuaiyauvaara arinaima rikiaanee

Dataama aa yanaa aavaki vai kuaiyauvaa jaaruee taaneera kuaiyauvaa rikiaanee. Taarama taarama vaatayauvi aavaki vainoo. Tauraanaivo ataama vainoo. Vuafaaqaa kuaivo geedainna vaikio Pisiina kuaivo vuutaivaki vaikio Ingiriisa kuaivo tooyaivau vainoo. Tammaivo ataama vainoo. Pisiina kuaivo geedainni vaikio Vuafaaqaa kuaivo yaadudainni vainoo. Tammaannaivo ataama vainoo. Ingiriisa kuaivo geedainni vaikio Vuafaaqaa kuaivo yaaduadainni vainoo. Ii kua iyauvaki vooyauvi vainoo. Gioonna kiaapu hama Vuafaaqaa kuaivaa kiaiya jaarida arinaima rikiaateera itaama vainoo. Nnaagiaivo ataama vainoo. Mminnaa vooyauvi Vuafaaqa vaiyauvaa nnutuuyauvootama vaidiiya oyaiyauvootama yosinnaiyauvaa nnutuuyauvootama vainoo.

Aa yanaa aavaki vai atauyauvaara tuqinnama rikiaanee. Aa atau / aavo Vuafaaqaa kuaivaki vaivoono tinoo: Aa kua aavaa tiraivo taara kuavaitana mmuaavaugiataama vainno kiisama vioo ari vookaraama vaivaitana vaikio oyaivo mmuaavai vainoo, tiivai. Aa atau / aavo Ingiriisa kuaivaki vaivoono tinoo: Aa kua aavaa oyaiyauvo kiisama ari vookaraama vainoo, tiivai. Fafaara voovai ataama vaivaa (see: aavaa) a tee Vuafaaqaa kuaivo atau aakiaivaki vaivaa rabaree taanee. Fai a teeno vo kua oyaiyauvi mmuaakaraama vaino vooyauvi kiisama ari vookaraama vainaravai. Fafaara voovai ataama vaivaa (see: Appendix 1 (2)) a tee yanaa tooyaivaki rabaree mmuaakarai nabaivaara buaama kiese kua kaanaivaa taanee.

Alphabets

Waffa	Tok Pisin	English
a	a	a
b	b	b
		c
d	d	d
e	e	e
f	f	f
g	g	g
h	h	h
i	i	i
	j	j
k	k	k
	l	l
m	m	m
mm		
n	n	n
nn		
ng	ng	
o	o	o
p	p	p
q		q
r	r	r
s	s	s
t	t	t
u	u	u
v	v	v
	w	w
		x
y	y	y
		z

Waffa – Tok Pisin – English