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FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY--ETHNOLOGY

336134

Field No.

21

Provenience: Papua New Guinea, West Sepik Province, Aitape District, **Ali Island**, Malung Village

People: Ali people

Object: Head Ornament (taling matapong)

Material: bush rope (war anao), cowries, nassa, Job's tears, beads, another kind of shell

Description: Made and sold by Mrs. Antonia Wailun, who resides in Malung where she was born, but she had married a man from Caltaleo village, but returned to her natal village when she became a widow. Ornament worn by a women after birth of her first or second child when shen ends her period of seclusion and bathes for the first time since giving birth. This is worn as part of a fairly elaborate decoration with arm bands, fragrant leaves, etc. and is

Dimensions: $H = 11 \frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}$, $\text{circumference} = 21 \frac{1}{2} \text{ in.}$

Neg. No.

Acc. 4116

Collection: Robert L. Welsch, Sept. 2000

accompanied by an exchange of food among family members.

Rope or string is a natural bush rope made of bark/bast of a tree called war anao. Rope also called war anao. Reddish color from a tree in the bush called nunjil mixed with lime (wiew). Some nylon fishing line also used.

Following items are attached:

cowries (cameo) gathered on the reef at Ali
nassa shell (cai) bought at Aitape market for K1-00 for a small
bottle.

Job's tears (krup) gathered along the road at Aitape.

beads (raring) bought at Wewak

shells (cul) gathered on the beach at Ali. This is a larger kind of cowrie.