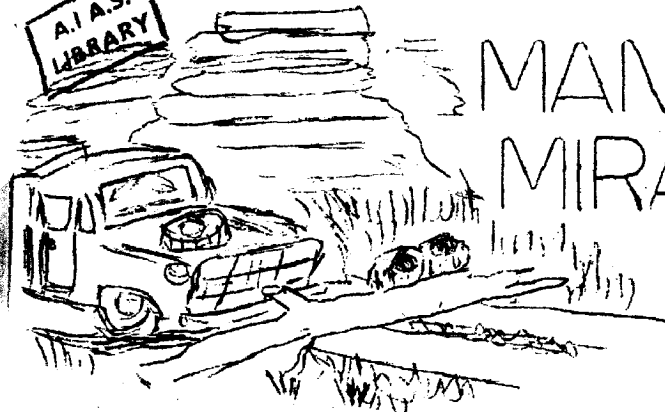
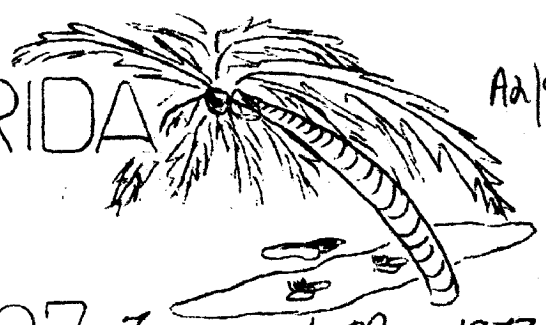


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MANINGRIDA MIRAGE



Aa/s

Vol. 137 Friday 19th May 1972.

"Down The Track"

* Two Saturdays ago an intrepid group consisting of Messrs. Gardiner, Tuites, Burchett x 2, Green, Berryman, possibly others, and assorted vehicles headed down to the Cadell Crossing on the Bulman Road. The journey took 5 hours down (trees on the road held things up) and 2½ hours back. Barry tells us the long grass is long and the road is good and dry. The water on the Crossing is clean and good for swimming. Jack Gardiner insisted on having some billy tea.

* On Tuesday Eddy C. and John H. attempted a sentimental journey to the Bulman. Though there was nothing wrong with the track there was something amiss with the truck. The clutch gave in about 10 miles past the Crossing and forced our travellers back home.

* Members of the mining fraternity made an attempt to drive to Oenpelli. Again the gods did not smile. About 20 miles out they encountered a troublemaker swamp which they could not get through. You may have noticed their Toyotas with black mud from radiator to breakfast.

Village Council

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15/5/72

PRESENT: Present were 11 Councillors and 2 visitors.

BABY TUCKER: Cr. Munyal asked what was going to happen about the week-end baby tucker. After some talking it was decided to see if baby rations could be sold from the hospital at weekend. Superintendent said he would see if this was possible.

FISHING: Cr. Riala said he had spoken to the two old Gunavidji men at Juda Point. They were happy for the fish trap idea.

MILL: Cr. Fry said that 4 Europeans at the sawmill was enough; other jobs should be given to aboriginal men. There were too many Europeans at Maningrida already.

Cr. Riala agreed. He said that if too many Europeans were given jobs it could lead to aborigines being eventually excluded. He was aware that some aboriginal men did not stay on the job but it was not right to bring in European men because of this.

Vice-President said that people should all work together to secure a solution to this problem. Children were at school and learning new ways; they had to get their chance when the time came.

It was then agreed that Council should object to the employment of more Europeans in the sawmill, and to communicate this to Darwin.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUPPER: Superintendent announced that the supper each week-day had been cut out as only 2 or 3 people attended on average over the past 6 months. Cr. Fordham complained

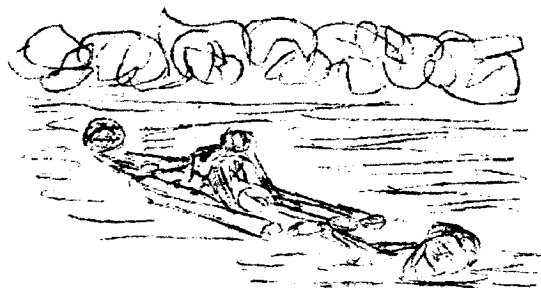
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

A Long Walk Home.

I started out from Fisheries at 5 o'clock in the morning with my little boy (his name is Graham James) and Frank (Melgoda). We went up the Liverpool River, passed the Tomkinson and into the Mangarabola creek and into a small creek where Jimmy Jiminmala and his family were living. They had made a wire netting fish trap there. We got there at 7 o'clock. This place belongs to Peter Maralwanga (Jun.) and my wife, Mary Wilmarga.

I got three barramundi from Jimmy and gave him some sugar and tea. Then we started back again. I had to paddle all the way because it was low tide. When we reached the deep water, I tried to start the motor. I tried, and tried, and tried! But it wouldn't start. So I and my little boy and Frank started walking. We had to cross the salt plain. We had no water, no anything. We walked up there and I saw a little blue tongue lizard. I showed it to my little boy Graham "You see that lizard. Leave him. Maybe snake. Looks like snake."

We walked on and came to George Namarabila's place Wora-gala-ganora (Long yam is sitting there.) "Here now" I said to Frank "Here now we swim." Frank asked me "Do you think that there are any crocodiles here?" "No." I said. "It's a good place. We can swim." So cut the logs of a light tree - 4 logs.



We tied up one end with my shirt and the other end with Frank's shirt. On top we put my gun, axe, knife and my little boy, on top." "Now let's swim. You at the back, Frank, and me in front." So we swam. We came to the other side. We were near Nabolodja where we had a drink of water. Then we walked out on to the main road.

We got onto Nakara Road and drank some water there and came on to Gabalyara Creek at sunset. There was no moon, so we had to walk in the dark.

We came on down past the airstrip to where the contractors are living and the men there gave me 2 cigarettes - one for Frank and one for me. We'd had no cigarettes or matches. We went on after a short spell, and came to the Basketball Court where we met Mr. Hunter. "Your'e here!" he said "What happened to the motor?" "Engine trouble!" I said. "I tried and tried and couldn't start it." "How did you cross that (Tomkinson) Creek?" he asked. "Oh we swam it, but we made a fire, so that Silas would see it and come down with another motor." I got here at half past eight. Silas came back after looking for me at half past nine. That's all.

As told by Billy Yiriyin on tape.

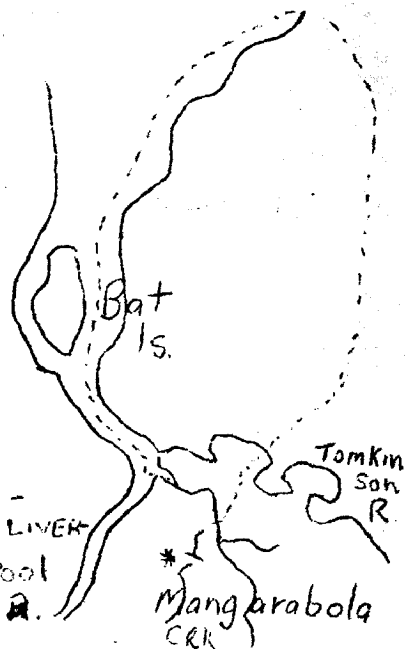
Washed up on the Beach.

At a recent gathering, Mr. Mick Uibo showed slides of some interesting things found along the beaches near Numbulwar. He has listed some of them here.

- + The wheel of a Japanese war-time bomber. (The Japanese writing can be still seen on the 4' diameter tyre.) It probably crashed into the sea.
- + A canoe which the local people say has floated down from New Guinea. It is pointed at both ends and is not like Aboriginal canoes.
- + The wreck of a Japanese fishing trawler at Rantyririty Point. Its engine is now used to pump water in the Numbulwar garden.
- + Numerous flotsam, such as Japanese spray packs, beer bottles, ice-cream tins etc. can be found on the coast too.

Some of the relatives of the people who took part in the murder of the Japanese fishermen at Caledon Bay in the 1930's are still living at Numbulwar. The Mission had not been built at that time, but "Peace parties" went out from Emerald River Mission (Groote Is.) then.

Mick U.



Calling Young People A Chance to Train.



Four training courses will be held in Darwin for young Aboriginal men and women who would like to learn more about a job in which they are interested. The courses (or classes you may like to call them) start in July and finish in December.

The four courses are as follows:

1. OFFICE ASSISTANTS COURSE. Mainly for young men, but women may like to go also. You would learn many of the things that are done in an office like the settlement office at Maningrida and do some of the work that Mrs. Mussig is doing here.
2. SEWING ASSISTANTS COURSE: For young women who have done some sewing already but who would like to learn more, and later sew at Maningrida as a full time job such as is doing at the Home Management Centre.
3. BUILDING MAINTENANCE COURSE: For young men who would like to learn more about helping to repair houses, and other buildings.
4. NURSING ASSISTANTS COURSE: For young women who would like to work in a hospital - this course will help you learn some of the duties of a person who helps in a hospital, like Betty Wandug.

Men and women who go to Darwin for one of these courses would receive a training allowance, would live in a Hostel and be expected to look after themselves and contribute towards the cost of accommodation.

If you are interested in studying in Darwin at one of the training courses, please come to the settlement office as soon as possible and talk to the Superintendent about what you would like to do.

Village Council Cont.

that he had to pay for each "return" at the kitchen. This wasn't right. Superintendent said that it was right.

TIMBER:

Cr. Fordham complained that Forestry had removed timber from Botgadi. They should pay. Councillors Fry and Riala said that no-one need necessarily pay for logs but that Forestry should have the courtesy to consult with people before removing timber from their country. Superintendent said that the Forestry business brought some benefit to Maningrida by way of road construction and jobs with bigger wages. After further discussion it was decided to compile a map outlining the boundaries of people's country and to make it available to Forestry. The rest was up to them to consult Council before they moved into each area.

PENSIONS:

Cr. Riala said that he had been approached by Mrs. Mary Jawarrluma who wanted to know why her widows pension had stopped. Superintendent explained the rules governing the Widows Pensions. A widow with children under the age of 16 was entitled to a pension; when each of the children turned 16, or left school if over 16, then the pension stopped. A widow, without young children, was only entitled to a pension if she was more than 50 years of age.

CARS:

Cr. Ganjibala wanted to know why Fred Gunamlila was asking people for money to fix his truck. Why didn't he work for his money. Superintendent said that it was up to Fred to stay on the job better if he asked for work again. He had a lot of chances.

Council Cont.

- Water: Cr. Riala wanted to know why there was no water afternoons. Superintendent said that only 2 of the 5 bores were working; the rest were broken.
- BRICKS: Cr. Gangalara complained that children had broken bricks at the factory. It was decided to find the offenders and punish them.
- ROBERT BIBORO: The matter of Robert Biboro's marriage was raised.
- GUNS: Cr. Riala complained that small boys were allowed to use guns. This had to stop and offenders would be punished.

=====

Health Committee.

A Health Committee Meeting was held on 16th May.

Present were Mesdames Amies, Armstrong, Sister Lehtonen and Tilley, and Messrs Wilders, Hassall and Hunter.

Sr. Tilley tabled papers by Dr. Soong dealing with the implementation of health education programmes. It was arranged that committee members would study these before discussing them.

Sr. Tilley also tabled a letter and papers from Sr. Sandra Stacy dealing with the nutritional rehabilitation centre in Alice Springs and the work which it undertakes.

The Superintendent said that Council had favoured the idea of extending Meals on Wheels to Saturdays and Sundays. It was proposed to examine the possibility of doing this by enlisting the support of young aboriginal people to operate the service. The Superintendent would approach the kitchen staff to see if they could arrange the extra meals.

From the Newspapers - "The Australian"

It is cold at night in Canberra now. Yet there are nine aboriginal people and some Europeans living in tents on the lawn in front of Parliament House. The tents have been there for nearly four months.

These people are living out in the cold because they want the Government to give some land to Aboriginal people. When the Government politicians walk into Parliament House they see the tents and remember what those people want.



The Government says Aboriginal people may buy land if they want to. It has provided money so Aboriginal people can do this. Meanwhile the Government is going to have the tents taken away. The people in the tents say they will keep coming back.

New Housing

A meeting was held at the school on Monday evening last to discuss the proposal to erect six new staff houses, five of which will be sited between existing houses. A letter will be sent in an attempt to stop the construction or change the sites. Some ideas were also put forward on what might be done to speed up the Aboriginal Housing programme.

Working Bee

A working bee was held at the new basketball/tennis court last Saturday. It was well attended in the morning by both European and Aboriginal people. A few stalwarts returned in the afternoon. Many holes were dug, posts erected, and netting was erected round the court to a height of 6 feet. The next 6 feet of netting remains to be erected, the courts marked and we'll be ready for the Davis Cup.



Sweet Potatoes.



The first major produce of the Cadell Gardens, a few hundred pounds of sweet potatoes, were sold in the store last Saturday. The spuds were well received and sold quickly.

An Aboriginal Story in Pictures and Words

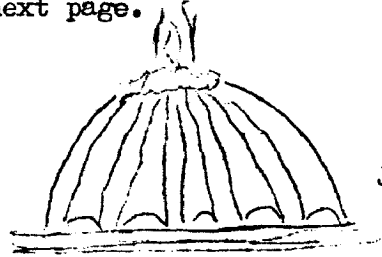
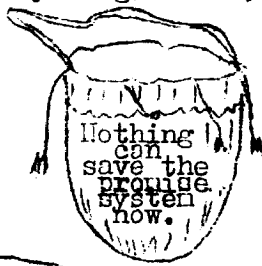
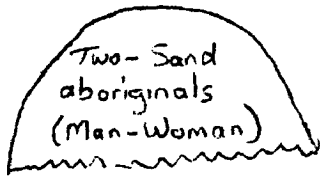
by Jack Miritji.

A pictorial and symbolic representation depicting various aspects of an Aboriginal's life eg.

1. The promise system - see the dilly bag with a pandanus tree nearby representing the source of the dilly bag.
2. Death - see the hollow bamboo or bone pole.
3. Moieties and totems.
4. The coming of the Balanda.

Other characters shown are related to ceremonies (bunguls) and sacred totems.

Annotations by Marg. Neale. on next page.



Jabiru Hut.

(1) Yiritja Moiety Hawk.

I am the hawk and in the Dream-time, I dropped my feathers which became pandanus for you people to make into sacred dilly bags. My feathers will also make armbands for your ceremonies.



(2)



Hey!!!
You need me too.

(3) Thank you Pandanus.

Sounds like something big has happened. We'll be right with you.



(4)

What about me Boss?
Dont you want to take an old hollow bamboo?



Goose.

(5) No, Hollow Bamboo. You stay and look after my Jabiru hut, Emu.

I'll send for you if I need you.



(6) If the corroboree ^{wants} to see me fast, I can dance it better than the two sand Aboriginals

(7) My spirit is leaving by my back-bone, which is like a boomerang. I will give you this (boomerang) and the snake, and you can make a Dua Kunapipi - eagle.



(8) Eagle. You must promise to make a Kunapipi for all the birds to dance at.

O.K?

(9) Sure Boss.



(10) nark ! nark !
What chance does an initiation ceremony like (bungul) Hawk have of reaching the promise ahead of me! Hrrmph.

(11) But you never can tell pandanus

(12) Hey!! Look that's the two-sand Aboriginal. Now if Bungul Hawk could play like that, he might have a chance.



(13) Yes, he sure might.

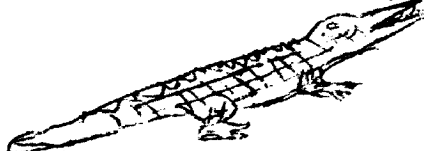


(14) Go, thunder, fly old Kunapipi Hee, Hee, Hee Eagle.



(15) Corroboree. I wish to report that Initiation Bungul Hawk should arrive soon...

(16) Soon ?



(17) He's been here almost an hour already.



see next page for notes on story . Continued next week.

Cont.

Notes on the story

*two - meaning the two sexes, man and woman.

*sand- meaning the Aboriginal's origin from the earth. (Red and yellow ochres.)

Hawk - is the totem of the person being initiated. Also the hawk founded the ceremony. He is calling all the totems together for a bungul.

Goode - represents the sound of the dijeridoo. It made the didjeridoo a long time ago.

Hollow Bamboo - represents the bone pole and the didjeridoo.

Gurulu - a bird like a crane.

Hee Hee Hee - eagle imitating the sounds made by men dancing in the Kunapipi.

From The Newspapers

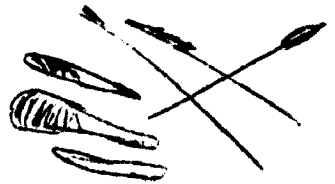
Goulburn Island People Worrying.

Two people from Goulburn Island, Samuel Wogbara and his wife Daisy, have been in Darwin. They have been speaking to Government men, union men, and others. They are saying that the wages which the Aboriginal people are getting are not enough. They did not have enough to feed their children and buy clothes for everybody in their family. They want the Government to pay Aboriginal people more wages.



Trouble at Papunya.

At Papunya Settlement last week there was big trouble. The policemen and Aboriginal people there had a big fight. More police came and 22 men were taken to jail. In Darwin many people are speaking hard words about this. Some men in the Legislative Council say there will be big trouble because Aboriginals hate balandas. Other people are saying there is no need for fighting and hating but the white people must give the Aboriginal people more power to look after themselves.



Basketball

Last week.

Thurs. Garatpu 44 d. Pioneers 32.
Kupanga 54 d. Cape Stewart 52.

Tues. Eagles 40 d. Cape Stewart 38
Kupanga 46 d. Pioneers 24.

Next Week.

Tuesday May 23rd. 7p.m. Jinang v Cape Stewart.

Score in last round 28-40

8p.m. M.P.A. v Garatpu

Last round 56-34

Thursday 25th. May 7p.m. Cadell v Kupanga (42-48 last round)

8p.m. Eagles v Pioneers (32-40 last round)

Studying The Pandanus Weaving

Professor Les Haines and Jan from the University of New South Wales have been here this week studying and filming the weaving of Aboriginal people. They have been to Maningrida before studying other things like carving and the making of bark shelters and canoes. Les tells us that Talbot Bonaduda is working very well and showing a lot of promise at Bagot Pottery.




Arts and Crafts this week had an enquiry from the Bunbury Hill Museum for some bark paintings to put on display. What moved them to make the enquiry? "Recently we had as visitors Mr. & Mrs. Erik Jensen ..." Good on you, Erik!

This week the Cubs were playing a game in which one side had to guess what kind of snake or lizard the other one was. The guessers weren't doing too well. The answer was "green tree snake" but the answers coming up were rattle snake, cobra, king brown etc. One of the boys gave a clue "It's a green ?? " Back came an answer like a flash "Green truck ! "

Weekend Duties

Duty Officer : Mr. E. Carey
Duty Sister : Sister Maija.

Star Theatre

Fri. "When Dinosaurs ruled the Earth." 
Maybe blood, fighting and horror.

Sat. "North by North-West" starring Alfred Hitchcock.
Also Carey Grant, Eva-Marie Saint, James Mason. Foreign agents Spy Story.

Whit-Sunday, Pentecost.

Church



9.30a.m. Sunday Schools .

7 p.m. Outdoor Service around the fire near the Kitchen.
Some of the young men will dance the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples.

Wed. 7p.m. Crusader's Fellowship.

At this time each year, Christians all round the world pray for unity among themselves, and the growth of new understanding and mutual service together. This movement gathered strength during the War. Priests and ministers were thrown into prison along with many other people and they found that they could pray and read their Bibles together, and discovered a fellowship they had not known before.

Since then a number of Churches have been united. In England discussions have been going on between the Church of England and the Methodists. However on May 4th., 65.81% of the General Synod of the Church of Eng. voted for union. (75% was needed) The Archbishop of Canterbury told the Synod before the vote was taken, that a 'No' would be like a bridegroom jilting the bride only "more unkind than true". No doubt some members voted 'No', because they knew of Methodists who are hesitant about union.

Our Lord prayed that "they may all be one."

Births.

Baby boy born to Rosalie Gandiwanga in Darwin on May 14th.
A brother for 'Killer' Bill and Peter Maralwanga's 24th child.

Baby Honour son of Stella and Charlie Mulumbuk is doing well in Darwin.
A baby son born to Jill BarangBarang and Jim Cooper in Darwin.
May 16th.

People.

Constable Dean Monahan is here pending the arrival of Sgt. Cox and Constable Perkins in the near future. So Maningrida now has a resident policeman.

James Newman has been staying with Jackie, his sister James has been getting in quite of a bit of practice as a circuit rider (Motor bike), before returning to school in Canberra.

Mr. and Mrs. Uiho Sn. and Brian (grandson) have been holidaying with Mick and Didarmin.

Mr. Ed. Ruhe who is gathering material for a book on bark painters arrived yesterday. Ed. was here on a short visit in 1966 and became very interested in the ancient art. His home is in U.S.A. - Kansas.

Due today is Mr. Jim Davidson on his annual journey through Arnhemland visiting the bark painters and buying work for his gallery in Melbourne. Jim has been coming North for 10 or 11 years now.

Flying in on an Arnhem Air Charter tomorrow at 9.30 a.m. will be an Art Collector and Industrial Designer from California, Mr. Jerome Gould. He comes to buy some old barks and meet the older bark painters.

So it looks as though there will be a Convention of some kind, down there in the Craft Room tomorrow.

The Korrilda College boys and girls are due to return to School on today's plane.

Two new nursing sisters are expected in the near future. Very likely they are spending a time in the North while on a round Aust. or round the world trip.

Sister Sherry writes from Umbakumba to say that she has settled in well there and is having some success with her fishing.

Old hands will remember Miss Nicolette Mason who used to be here for holidays with parents Jock and Heather and brother Merv. Nicolette will walk down the aisle of St. Mary's Cathedral on Saturday to stand alongside Vaughan Mitchell son of Bill (well known in Sport and Civic circles). We wish them much happiness in their marriage.

Bunappi arrived last Thursday from Mangalala in one of her regular 'around Arnhemland.' journeys.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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