

A.I.A.S.
LIBRARY

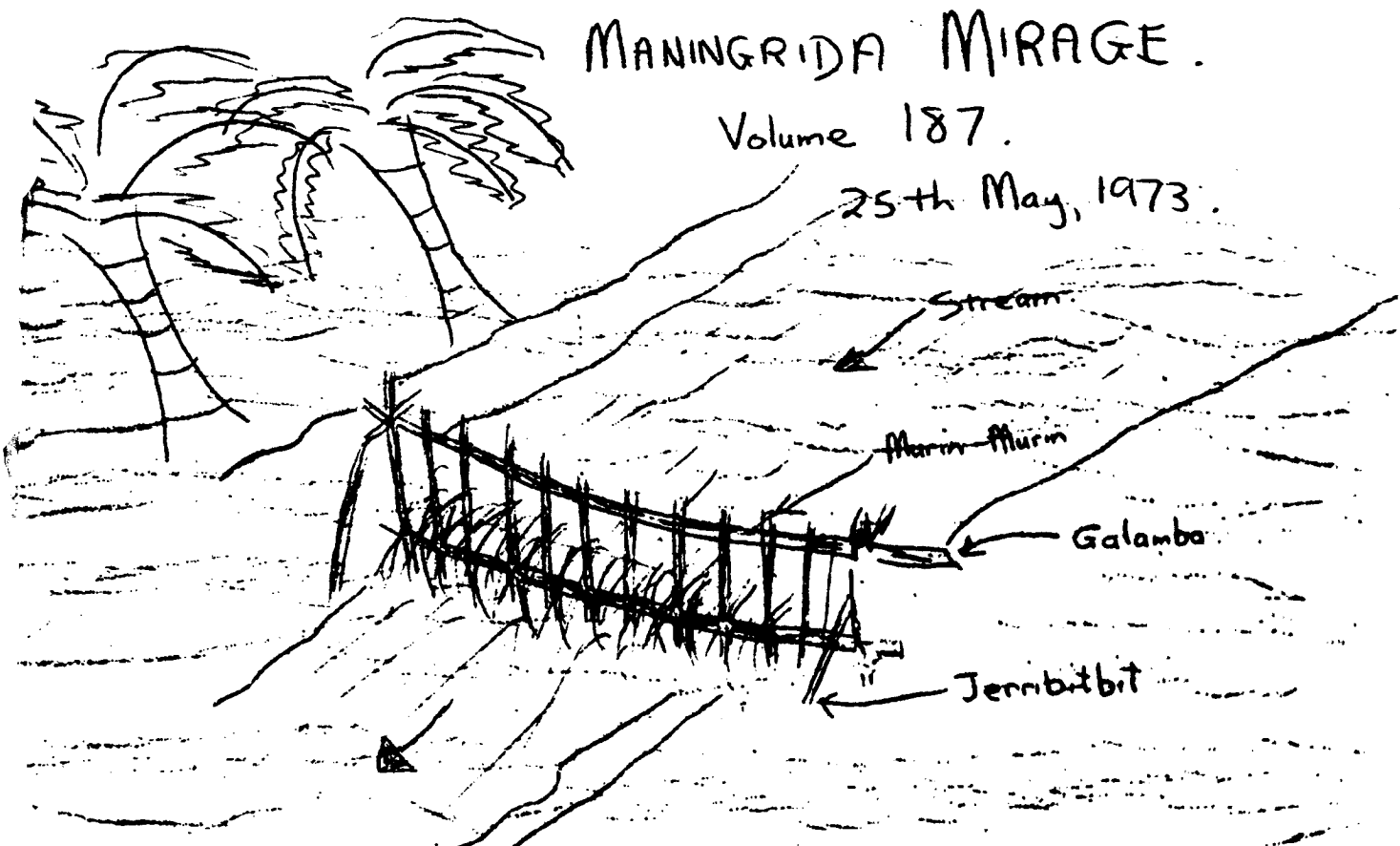
17 JUL 1974

AAK

MANINGRIDA MIRAGE.

Volume 187.

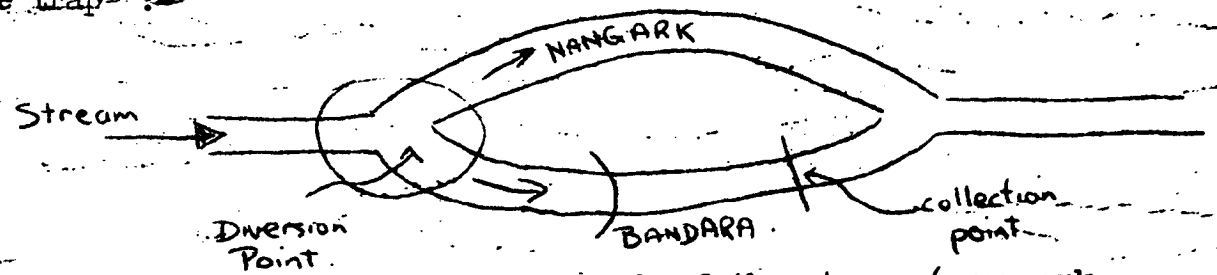
25th May, 1973.



THE BANDARA

Four correspondents(s) had the probably unique opportunity of witnessing during a visit to Mandarrg at Nanggolod last week, yet another of the traditional fish trapping techniques employed by people in this area. This method not only employs skilful technology but also anticipates, and regulates, the movement of fish under carefully controlled circumstances.

The Principle component of the trap is the Bandara, a barrage constructed of sapplings, stakes, grass, and mud (drawing above). It is carefully located across a stream, in such a situation as will permit the diversion of the flow, as required in the operation of the trap.



In the operation we witnessed a branch of the stream (nangark , meaning "no fish here " ,) had been completely blocked off at the diversion point with a dam constructed of sapling supports and sheets of stringy bark . This sent the full flow of water across the Bandara, which held back about a 3' or 4' head. Immediately down-stream from the bandara were a couple of small pools into which fish were congregating. Presumably they were attempting to move up stream, but were prevented from doing so by the bandara. In the demonstration the stringy bark dam (Baikmigan) was removed and the water diverted through the stream called "Nangark" . The other fork of the stream, containing the bandara, was then blocked at the diversion point.

This started some sort of reaction amongst the fish in the pools, as the flow of water across the bandara started to diminish they commenced to move off downstream. It was at this point they found themselves trapped. The men had quickly assembled a race or flume made with a couple of saplings and some paper bark, where the stream flowed across a flat rock.

Childrens Corner Cont.

got there , we saw three Snake Bay girls and two Bathurst Il. girls. They said to us , ' Hey girls do you want to play grand final ? ' And we said to them . WE can play with you in the grand final. And we beat them 48 point to 38. It was very good game. On tuesday we went out for shopping. When we went out for shopping we saw Kerry Walking along the park. And when we went back to Kormilda , We went to the swimming pool. We had a lot of fun...

Joy Manarlawula.

School Diary - Ten Years Ago.

Miss Glowinskis room was entered and a book was stolen as well as chalk . Apparently a set of louvres was not locked properly which made entering the school an easy affair. The punishment (For the offenders) was to scrub the floor of that room that night.

SPORT.

The boys and girls Basketball Competitions finished with the Grand Finals on Thursday night 3rd May. 1972.

Girls Grand Final .

Kopanga 24 beat Bamboo Creek 22.

All players were very nervous at the start and many mistakes werw made . Bamboo Creek Settled down quicker than Kopanga and at half time Bamboo creek were leading 12 to 8 .In the second half Kopanga realy started to work well as a team. Sandra and Tamie kept the ball going to Joy and she scored a lot of good baskets to even the score at full - time. 5 minutes extra time was played and Kopanga scored one more basketthab Bamboo Creek to win by 24 to 22. For Bamboo Creek Renee tried her hardest all the time and scored 18 points but she didnst get enough help from her team mates . To Kopanga , congratulations you played very good team basketball.

Boys' Grand Final.

Junction Bay 37 beat Kopanga 34.

This was a very hard , close game . Kopanga driven at all times by Raymond , took an early lead to be ahead 18 to 14 at half time. In the second half Junction Bay started to score a lott of baskets to take the lead but Kopanga did not give up. Kopanga played the best game that they have ever played to lose only by 3 points. Raymond was the best player on the court . He thought all the time , setting up good attacking moves and playinghis team well in defence.

Congratulations , Junction Bay on being Champions.

Many people helped us in our competitions , Tom Wudjal, Jacky Pascoe, Sam, Albert, Tim Darcy, Jimmy Gulmina and others were always willing to referee. Many school children did the score book and score board efficiently.

Thank you everyone .

Bob Stutchbury.

Women's Basketball.

A good game last Monday night with the Red Baronesses scrang two wins :

game one (1) Red Barons 28 to Gunavidji 18 .
game two (2) Red Barons 28 to Burada 18 .

Once again supurb umpiring by the Big and Little Jimmy Pascoes' (also Gladys).

Next Weeks Games.

1 Gunavidji (yellow) play Red Baronesses.
2 Gunavidji (yellow) play Burada. (pink).

Umpires : (as above).

Scorereres : Pauline & Nonie.

Timekeepers : Steptoe & son.

Marg Neale.

THE ISSUE.

I will continue this issue and complete my contribution for those who I know are interested in this discussion. It is in the vein of a public debate or rather a discussion that my response should be read by the reader and contributed to, as I suspect our "princely pen pusher from the log doctor syndicate" may be indulging in. (a cheeky one maybe?). This story should not be read as something personal and vindictive, for it is not my intention.

In fact the particular issue that fired the discussion- Jack Mirritji's story- represents, in part, much wider issue of European assistance in the community; the present reshuffle of community control at Maniagrida, e.g. the emerging autonomy of the Village Council, Parents and Friends etc. It is here perhaps, that readers could contribute to the discussion.

I must reiterate my statement that I am without illusion of being any more of an authority than my past 18 months experience with Jack's writing has made me.

One of Jack's literary idiosyncracies is his double standards in writing. When writing narrations- as the bulk of the "condensed story" was - his English is almost flawless. Although last weeks letter to the Editor was not a narrative it is in the same category because of it's straight forward conversational style.

However, the problem starts when he attempts to put abstract concepts on paper. Such concepts as relate to his personal philosophies on life (they are certainly unique), traditional myths and legends, or his interpretation of the present intergration problem. He harbours some incredibly profound ideas in these areas - as many of his past stories indicate.

Many, many hours of Jack's talking, cross examination and elaboration of what he has attempted to write must ensue before any sort of selection and rejection towards an article can take place.

Jacky is astute enough to realise that to submit a jumble of unrelated ideas and words is of no value to him or those who read them. All it can hope to achieve is to make both him and his thinking ability appear unsophisticated. And this would serve to confirm too many people's present estimation of an Aboriginal's thinking power.

Something must be lost in the translation (in the type of abstract articles under discussion) and from there it becomes a matter of priority; should he submit his jumble of words with no change at all and have it understood by a minority, if any?, or have it made readable with the inevitable influence of the most unbiased helper upon it- and understood by most?

This is the same sort of thing Bruce was talking about last week but he didn't specify the type of Jack's stories he was referring to.

The problem increases when it is realised that Jack is not
but a translation

of his concepts that his language symbolises. Some of these concepts do not occur in our way of life and there are virtually no equivalents. For instance, a story like Jack's "Kara the spider" which is a sort of creation myth, and completely alien to our understanding, must lose something in the translation. A compromise must be reached to get it onto paper. The aboriginals intricate religious way of life is not truly translatable. To what degree we will never know.

It is inevitable that there must be some breakdown of his concepts in order that they may be transposed into terms of reference which we understand. Those who have worked with him on such stories, know what a frustrating experience it is for both parties. It is frustrating and uncomfortable to not know when Jack's thinking stops and ours starts. He is often forced to compromise and that hurts.

The end product seen in the Mirage bears little witness to the behind the scenes activities (in these stories only).

Story by Marg Neale

Assisted by Jack Mirritji.

The Editor
'Mirage'
Maningrida.

G.H. Prince
Maningrida.
15th May 1973

Dear Sir,

I have been deeply distressed to read in the last two editions of the 'Mirage' the letters and editorial comment occasioned by Mr Mirritji's article, with the overtones of paternalism and 'More-liberal-than-thou' attitudes.

It is a great pity that the editorial was not in Jinang. After all, it is your editorial and you should not worry that there may be mistakes which would make it incomprehensible to the Jinang people, as long as it is written by you that is all that is required by your readers.

In regard to Mr. Mirritji's story, this writer at least can find little to take exception to. Therefore, one must assume that the editorial comment was reserved solely for the social and political thoughts at the end of it. Therefore, although the phrase 'Up you Daniel' springs to mind, I feel I should be more specific.

Editorial opinion seems to be that all great works suffer in translation. This may well be true, but one should remember that the untranslated are unread. One is reminded of the low esteem in which Shakespeare is held in Mongolia, because of his inability to translate his own works. Although I agree that a degree of incomprehension is advisable in all publications (witness any government one) it should not be such as to defeat the original purpose, which was of course to astound the readers with one's own understanding.

That the 'Mirage' is not afraid to print English mistakes is self-evident in the article by a trained EDUCATOR.

One of the most distressing things about the whole affair is the fact that Mr. Mirritji did not receive sufficient education in the first place. Who, one may well ask, was responsible for this in the first place, if not those professional educators who now feel 'honour bound' to try and clear up the situation they themselves have created.

It is one of the worlds more-bizarro assumptions that education improves the mind.

Regarding 'An article about an article' the whole tone of which reminds one of the early vapid liberals; Perhaps the percentages that Mr. Neale suggests are in inverse ratio to the gradient curve of the readership tables, which naturally is debateable. Rather than attempt to provide a solution to this dilemma, I feel I should leave the decision to those who can understand what I am talking about.

Regarding 'Another article about writing articles', this I find to be a system of increasing over zealous contributor participation. A crank, no matter how crude, is, and remains, a crank. Indeed one may see in this article the seeds of the basket balling, crickoting menace that is beginning to over run eastern civilisation.

I remain Sir,
Yours faithfully,
C.H.Prince.

A WARNING TO ALL CHILDREN OWNERS!

Could all parents please impress upon their children that I do not want them to enter, or pass through my yard without my permission. My dog is too big, playful and rough for small children. I will not be held responsible if a child is hurt by her, in my yard when I am not there.

I am trying to keep the dog in my yard, so please, if anyone finds her out of it, without me, do not befriend or encourage it. I don't want her to feel welcome to roam the streets and houses without me and it's lead. Do not feed her either.

I trust you will all co-operate with me and respect my plea.

Thank you,
Gladys Pascoe.



BACK TO MOTHER COUNTRY.


Goodbye everyone I was here first about 1961 and to 1973 . . . But these time I am going away to my country where I was borne . With my big brother and his family. I had a teaching the children long time here in Maningrida . I' m not coming back any more again . Welcome to stay with you here for long time . you want see my face any more. I am staying there for eve and ever . see you round in Darwin or any where else. I'm leaving on next Friday , or Saturday , And Monday, Tuesday. Goodbye Gordon Sweeney School Maningrida for eve and ever.

--G.R. Garawun.

Thank you George for your contributions over the years , maybe you could write us some stories about your country and what you are doing there.

Ed.

Weekend Bits and Pieces.

DUTY SISTER: Sr. Lee. 

DUTY OFFICER: Eddie (straight ball) Carey.

Church Notes : Programme as per usual.

Star Outdoor Theatres. Present.

Friday: "SEVEN GOLDEN MEN". col. 100 mins. General Exhibition.
Seven daring skindivers who surfaced with 70 mill dollar haul.

Saturday: "BIG MOUTH" (true Story) col. 107 mins. Gen. exhib.
Jerry Lewis funny. He reels up a frogman who has just hidden a swag of stolen diamonds ,..... Good clean family Entertainment

Weather: as per usual.

Days fine Light to moderate S.E. breezes
Nights could be chilly , Heavy dues, dews
can be expected.

Tides :Going in and Out. Low Sat. 11am.
Low sun. *2noon ?

ARTIST TO SHOW HIS TECHNIQUE IN ADELAIDE

As previously stated in the Mirage, Peter Banjurjjirl is going to paint at the NT Tourist Bureau exhibit in Myers Department store, Adelaide. He leaves next Wednesday and the exhibit, which opens on Monday, May 28 runs for two weeks. Also in the NT exhibition are 10 dancers from Numbulwar and an artifact maker from Yuendumu. Good luck, Peter.

GOOD HUNTING, PADDY.

Paddy Fordham, 'Lord Mayor of Guyun', had a very successful trip to Nangalod (Stone Country) last weekend. On the way down he shot an emu and, on the return journey he scored a big goanna. As we turned a corner in the road we scared a mob of emus. They ran off into the bush, followed by Paddy and Bill Miritjawe. A few minutes later Paddy emerged with an emu over his shoulders. The next day, while we were travelling back to Maningrida, we caught up to a big goanna on the road. It had no hope of surviving as Paddy chased it into the bush and thumped it over the head with a stick.

-- B.S.

VALE Amphibious Tours Pty. Ltd.

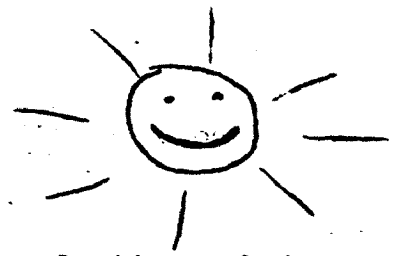
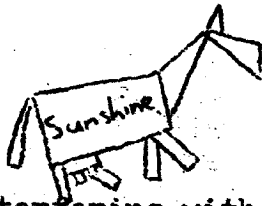
Today we say goodbye to Mr Grant Steele, (affectionately known as Rusty Steele). Next port of call is Hooker Creek (the proverbial oasis in the desert), where success with his now famous water divining technique will be greatly appreciated. Goodbye Rusty, and good luck.

TO THE PEOPLE

Every years, months weeks and days I've written the stories for the Mirage both black and white people think that I get an assistants in assisting me with my stories by writing and correcting it. In that case you are dead wrong. Why was I educated for? Why I'm using and writing the big hard words? Is it for pleasure or is it for understanding? Remember; this is my foreign language in participating in Europeans community for understanding because there are a mixture of black and white and spoken languages of different tribes. It's my thoughts, ideas, mind and feelings and I'm using it for my own good, not matter how my spoken english is in bad shape because this is my second foreign language instead of my mother superhuman ancestors tongue. I have written for concilating of my knowledge, thoughts, experience, mind, ideas words and deeds to see how I can create myself to be very cute and abilitable man of anything in my new generation society and benefits of my own good of living with the others no matter what of the colour, creed or other may they belong. I do still remember the story I've written for the Mirage about the old time story "The Way to Change." Because of this it showed us how the superhuman ancestors lived on earth about 30,000 years ago in the early Eternal Dreamtime. A day later a woman without sincere and loyalty disagreed with me and then we both argued. If we are friends, what should we do? Should we show our attitudes and hospitalities or should we show our confessions ways of being not loyalty and in friendship? Why do we hate each other? If we don't love each other in many ways, well then, why can't we destroy human beings thoughts, words, mind and feelings. Be a genius and then you will ~~be~~ overcast your power to destroy his feelings, mind thoughts and ideas to the one you hate or just destroy the people in the universe.

-- Jimmy Pascoe

MANINGRIDA HOUSING NEWS.



Water problems have been interfering with the brick production , but the output has averaged 900 per day since commencement , very good considering the handicaps.

Mr. & Mrs. Lindsay Phegan & baby Warrick arrived on Wednesday and Lindsay commenced duty on Thursday , they left behind the cold weather. Lindsay and Chris come from Upper Coomera , near Southport , in Q.L.D., Upper Coomera is a famous dairying area. Lindsay is a cricketer , so another member for the now famous M.C.G.

Mr. John Wright made another flying visit here this week to attend to the claw on the Backhoe, But we will be back water divining next week. Mr. & Mrs. Welch are due to arrive in a few weeks , Brian has taken the Leading Hand Position with the association , they will live in the associations caravan until their house is built. Mrs. Welch is a D.C. sister so may be able to help out in the hospital .

Rod (Gaynda) Seymour.
Ed.

HOSPITAL STORY:

Sr. Maija. To Darwin to see Dentist and The Eye Doctor.

Sr. Edith . Returned after holidaying in England and Scotland and a stop over in Hong Kong Of 4 days . Sr. Edith has been made Public Health Sistr for Mgd.

Mr. Mark . Spent two days in Darwin visiting the Dentist.

Sr. Betty has settled into her new home where Bob Fisher and John Thompson formerly resided.

Lena Muluk has commenced work at the hospital . Her husband is Michael Mulul who works at the Forestry workshop . They have been living living at Daly River.

Lily Garambara who was flown into Darwin on Saturday for hospital treatment , is reported to be doing well.

Lorna Nalarindba went to Darwin on Tuesday to await the arrival of her babe.

SABINS (Polio Vaccines) now available at the BabyHealth Clinic. Babies must be over 3 (three) months old . Best time is to come in the afternoons.

sr. lee.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Gordon Sweeney School Notes.

Due to the onset of cooler dry season weather , starting time for the Primary school has been put back half an hour. As from Monday 28th May school will start at 8.30.a.m. each day .

School times will then be as follows:

	<u>Infant</u>	<u>Primary.</u>
Start	8.30.	8.30.
Morning Tea	10.30-10.50.	10.30-10.50.
Lunch	12.15- 1.30.	12.30- 1.30.
Finish	2.50.	3.30.

There is no change in the Pre-School times at the moment. We would like to see all the children at Maningrida coming to school. Parents - do think about the benefits of sending all your children to learn at this school., there are still some children staying at home who seem to be getting into mischief and this does not help anybody.

Childrens Corner.

Trip To Darwin.

Maningrida Mirage

AIATSIS Library, RS 29.7/2

"Maningrida Mirage Volume 187" May 25th, 1973.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

(r000005900888_v187_a.pdf)

To cite this file use:

http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig_prgm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/1973/r000005900888_v187_a.pdf

© Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community