

ETHNOMUSICOLOGY SECTION

3rd February, 1967

Dr. K. Hale,
Yuendumu Via,
ALICE SPRINGS, N.T.

Dear Ken,

Somewhat to my surprise Canberra has approved the suggestion that I visit Yuendumu while you are there. All being well, I hope to get away from Melbourne by the end of the month.

I hope this somewhat precipitous decision will not disturb your own plans in any way. Please let me know if the situation has changed since we talked about it last month, or if you would prefer me to postpone my visit until later March or April.

The fact is that I should like very much to record the songs for which you have already transcribed texts; or, failing this, to make recordings with you collaborating on the language side. At the same time it may be possible to make a joint probe into the "meaningless" syllable mystic at last and to get a little closer to the Waljbiri vocal aesthetic!

Frequency measurements can be made at a later date on the field samples obtained. I shall be bringing two Nagra recorders with me.

Apart from George List's spectographic information on O'Grady's Njangumarda recordings no comparative work has been done yet on pitch range or stress in Australian Aboriginal speech and song.

I am awaiting a reply from the Manager at Yuendumu, to whom I have already written tentatively about my chances of obtaining accomodation. I hope he replies soon as a statement from me to the Institute about likely field costs is now due.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Alice M. Moyle
A.I.A.S. Research Fellow