

cc: Mr R. Fordimail
Mr C. Boutell

P.O. Box 553
CANBERRA CITY .. A.C.T. 2601

29th October 1976

The President
Beswick Council
Bamyili, via
KATHERINE .. N.T. 5780

Dear Mr Hood,

I would like to come to Bamyili to talk to you and members of your Council about making some more records of Aboriginal songs. You may remember the five records (discs) called *Songs from the Northern Territory* which were made from some of the recordings I collected in 1962 and 1963.

At that time I was at Sydney University. After that, in 1965, I went to Monash University, Melbourne. At both these universities I worked on the recordings I made during my visits to Arnhem Land and also spent some time teaching university students about Aboriginal music.

In 1971 I went to America. At many places there I talked to young people about songs and dances of Aboriginal people.

Now I am in Canberra and I work at the Institute of Aboriginal Studies. As you know we have many tapes here in the Archive. I am helping to make catalogues of the song tapes.

I would like to talk to your Council about making some more records from these tapes so that school children in the south can hear the songs and learn more about the stories. Aboriginal children in the north may also like to have these records in their schools. I want to ask you about the right kinds of songs to put on records and about the things that school teachers should know about Aboriginal songs. We would like to let the children hear the songs your old people used to sing. We don't want to teach them about mixed-up songs or about songs which some people sing with guitars

If you want me to come to talk to you about these things you may like to write to me first and send off your letter in the enclosed stamped and addressed envelope. Or, you may prefer to send me a cassette with a spoken message on it.

If convenient I should like to come to see you for about two or three days next month or in December before the rainy season starts. I plan to visit several places in the north so my stay will not be a long one.

If it is not convenient for me to visit you this year, I should still like to know what your Council thinks about producing more records of Aboriginal music for school children.

I hope to hear from you very soon.

Yours sincerely

Alice M. Moyle