Aboriginal Treaty Committee

Dr H.C. Coombs (chairman) was Governor of the Commonwealth (later the Reserve) Bank from 1949 until 1968, Earlier, he was Director-General of Post-War Reconstruction, From 1967 to 1977 he was chairman of the Council for Aboriginal Affairs. He began his working life as a teacher in Western Australia, where he was born at Kalamunda, near Perth. He remembers the difficulties of the small minority of Aboriginal children in the schools where he taught. He remembers the racism of some Australians in country towns like Katanning and Pingelly.

Mrs Dymphna Clark is Australian born of Flemish/Scandinavian stock. She graduated from Melbourne University in German language and literature and is now a research assistant at the Australian National University, translating historical material on the German period in New Guinea, 1885-1914. She has also worked as a translator for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

Mrs Eva Hancock is a professional social worker, an Australian citizen who was born of German parents in a small town near Frankfurt.

Mr Stewart Harris graduated in history from Cambridge University and was the Australian correspondent of The Times (London) from 1957 to 1973. He also reported from Vietnam and from Egypt during the 1967 war with Israel, and from Southeast Asia. From 1973 to 1977 he was a senior research fellow at the Australian National Unitravelling widely through versity. Aboriginal Australia in cities and tribal areas. He wrote This Our Land (ANU) Press, 1972). He is now a foreign affairs research specialist in the Parliamentary Library, Canberra.

Mr Hugh Littlewood is secretary of the centre for resource and environmental studies at The Australian National University. He worked in Papua New Guinea from 1957 until 1972, first as a patrol officer and finally at the University in Port Moresby, where he graduated in anthropology and South Pacific prehistory.

Professor C.D. Rowley has been chairman of the Aboriginal Land Fund Commission since it was founded in 1975, which has given him a unique, contemporary experience of Aboriginal land needs throughout Australia. He was director of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Canberra 1974/79 and professor of political studies in the University of Papua New Guinea 1968/74. From 1964 to 1968 he was director of the Aborigines research project of the Academy of the Social Sciences, From 1950 to 1964 he was principal of the Australian School of Pacific Administration in Sydney, Durthis period he worked for UNESCO and the ILO in Thailand. Laos, Cambodía, the Philippines and Indonesia (1954/55), and he studied American Indians in the United States and Canada, and also Puerto Rico. He served in the AIF in Papua New Guinea from 1942 to 1946.

Professor W.E.H. Stanner is a research. scholar at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies in Canberra and a consultant to the Aboriginal Land. Commissioner in Darwin. He was professor of anthropology and sociology at the Australian National University from 1964 to 1970. He was a member of the Council for Aboriginal Affairs 1967/77. He graduated from Sydney University in anthropology and economics while working as a reporter on Sydney newspapers. In 1932 he made his first field trip into Aboriginal tribal country in the

Northern Territory. In 1938 he obtained a doctorate at the London School of Economics and then did research work among the tribes of Kenya. He was in the AIF from 1942, at first in command of a special observer force in the Territory and later in Europe and North Borneo. After the war he studied reconstruction problems in Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Western Samoa, in 1947 he became foundation director of the Makerere Institute of Social and Economic Research. Uganda. He was Australian commissioner on the South Pacific Commission 1953/55. Today Stanner returns regularly to stay with the Daly River people with whom he worked as a young man.

Mrs Judith Wright McKinney is the poet, author and conservationist whose professional name is Judith Wright. She was born in Armidale and studied anthropology at Sydney University. For some years she lived at Tamborine near Brisbane and was co-founder and president of the Queensland Wildlife Preservation Society. She now lives near Braidwood, NSW.

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Economist

Appendix 2

Miss Christina Stead Author Mr Douglas Stewart Poet and former literary editor, 'The Bulletin' Ms Anne Summers Journalist and author Mr Judah Waten Author and member, Literature Board. Australia Council Mrs Hyrell Waten Dr T. Welborn Physician Professor E.L. Wheelwright **Economist** Mr Fred Williams Artist and member Commonwealth Art Advisory Board Mr David Williamson Playwright | Mr Patrick White Author and winner Nobel Prize for literature, 1973 General Sir John Wilton (Retired List) Former chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee: Commander 28th Commonwealth Brigade, Korea, 1953 Consul-general in New York 1973/75 Rev B.R. Wyllie Mrs M.G. Wyllie

Draft resolution for the consideration of members of both Houses of the Parliament of the Commonwealth that a treaty of peace and friendship be concluded between Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islanders and the Commonwealth of Australia.

Preamble

Whereas before Europeans settled in Australia, the Aboriginal peoples of Australia had lived on their traditional lands from time immemorial and had in Aboriginal law and customs a clear title to those lands; and

whereas Europeans and other non-Aboriginal people have occupied and used most of the traditional lands of the Aboriginal peoples against their will and without negotiation, compensation or treaty; and

whereas it has been the practice of nations established in territones previously occupied by indigenous inhabitants to reach a negotiated settlement with those inhabitants; and

whereas that occupation has seriously damaged the traditional way of life of Aboriginal Australians and has caused poverty and hardship to be the fate of the great majority of their surviving descendants; and

whereas the surviving descendants of the Aboriginal peoples have expressed a wish to have their rights to land acknowledged, to preserve their link with their Aboriginal ancestors and to maintain their distinctive identity with its own cultural heritage; and

whereas the people of Australia in 1967 voted overwhelmingly that the Commonwealth Parliament should have responsibility for laws relating to Aboriginal Australians; and

whereas it is accepted internationally by the United Nations organisation, that each country should work to establish the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination, non-discrimination and the enjoyment of their own culture; and

whereas the Woodward Commission in 1974, established principles by which Aboriginal rights to land should be acknowledged and realised; and

whereas the Senate of the Commonwealth Parliament in February 1975 resolved that Aboriginal Australians should be compensated for the loss of their traditional lands and for the damage to their way of life, and

whereas the National Aboriginal Conlerence unanimously resolved in April 1979 in Canberra to ask the Commonwealth Government to negotiate a Treaty with Aboriginal Australians.

Now this House resolves that

- The Commonwealth Government should invite the Aboriginal people of Australia to negotiate a Treaty with the Commonwealth of Australia.
- 2 The Commonwealth Government should give all necessary financial and other assistance to the National Abonginal Conference to enable it to call together a convention of representatives nominated by Aboriginal communities and associations to choose negotiators who would propose the bases of negotiations and how any settlement should be confirmed.
- 3 When any Treaty, Covenant or Convention has been concluded and agreed to between the parties the Commonwealth Government should submit that Treaty to the Parliament for reshication.

- 4 This House is prepared to use its legislative powers to reserve to itself responsibility for Aboriginal Australians and to give effect to any or all of the terms of any Treaty that invite or necessitate legislative action.
- 5 This House is of opinion that any Treaty should contain provisions relating to the following matters:
- i. The protection of Aboriginal identity, languages, law and culture.
- ii The recognition and restoration of rights to land by applying, throughout Australia, the recommendations of the Woodward Commission.
- iii The conditions governing mining and exploitation of other natural resources on Aboriginal land.
- iv Compensation to Aboriginal Australians for the loss of traditional lands and for damage to those lands and to their traditional way of life.
- v The right of Aboriginal Australians to control their own affairs and to establish their own associations for this purpose.

Appendix 3

This necessarily incomplete list of books by Aboriginal Australians is taken partly from the invaluable Black Australia, a bibliography and teacher's guide to resources on Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, by Marji Hill and Alex Barlow, who have written short, critical commentaries. Black Australia, published by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, Canberra, 1978, is also a comprehensive bibliography of works by people who are not Aboriginal. It includes a list of periodicals.

Lamilami Speaks (autobiography) by Lazarus Lamilami. Ure Smith, 1974. Moon and Rainbow (autobiography) by Dick Roughsey. Reed, 1971.

Djugurba: tales from the spirit time by Aboriginal students. Australian National University Press, 1974.

Myths and Legends of Torres Strait by Margaret Lawrie. University of Queensland Press, 1970.

The Giant Devil Dingo by Dick Roughsey, Collins, 1973.

The Rainbow Serpent by Dick Roughsey, Collins, 1975.

Stradbroke Dreamtime (autobiography) by Kath Walker. Angus and Robertson, 1972.

The Two Worlds of Jimmie Barker (autobiography) by Jimmie Barker. Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, 1977.

My People's Life (autobiography) by Jack Mirritji, Milingimbi Literature Centre, N.T., 1976.

If Everyone Cared (autobiography) by Margaret Tucker, Ure Smith, 1977.

Because A White Man'll Never Do It (political) by Kevin Gilbert. Angus and Robertson, 1973.

A Bastard Like Me (autobiography) by Charles Perkins. Ure Smith, 1975.

We Have Bugger All: the Kulaluk story (political) by Cheryl Buchanan. Race Relations Department, Australian Union of Students, 1974.

The First-Born and Other Poems by

Jack Davis. Angus and Robertson, 1970.

My People (poems) by Kath Walker. Jacaranda Press, 1970.

Wild Cat Falling (novel) by Colin Johnson, Angus and Robertson, 1965. Long Live Sandawara (novel) by Colin Johnson. Quartet, 1979.

The Aboriginal Children's History of Australia written and illustrated by Aboriginal children, introduction by Wandjuk Marika, Rigby, 1977.

Wacvie (novel) by Faith Bandler. Rigby, 1977.

Living Black (political and social) by Kevin Gilbert. Penguin, 1977.

The Cake Man (play) by Robert Merritt. Currency Press, Sydney, 1978.

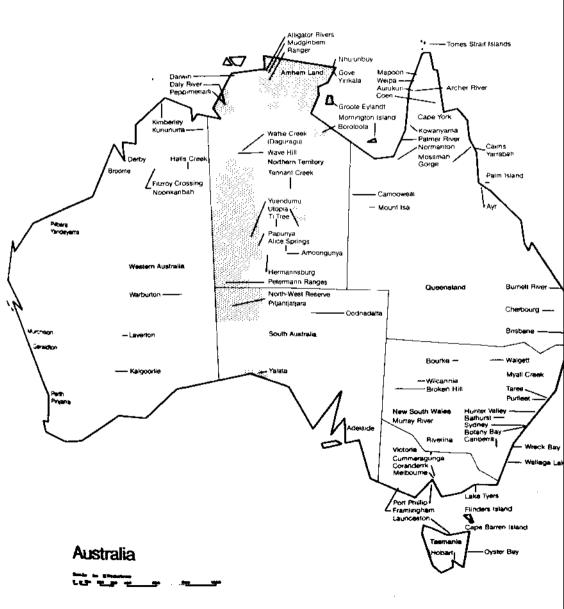
Jagardoo: Poems from Aboriginal Australia by Jack Davis. Methuen, 1978.

People Are Legends (poems) by Kevin Gilbert. University of Queensland Press, 1978.

This is Palm Island (political and social) by Bill Rosser, Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, 1978.

Taruru. Aboriginal Song — Poetry of the Pilbara (in the vernacular and translated by C.G. van Brandenstein and A.P. Thomas. Rigby, 1974).

There's More to Life (autobiography) by Koorie Dhoulagarle, Alternative Publishing Cooperative Limited, Sydney, 1979.



AIATSIS Library, B H316.27/I1 "Its coming yet...: an Aboriginal to

"Its coming yet...: an Aboriginal treaty within Australia between Australians",
Stewart Harris. Canberra:[Australian Aboriginal Treaty Committee] 1979

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