

20 JUL 1972

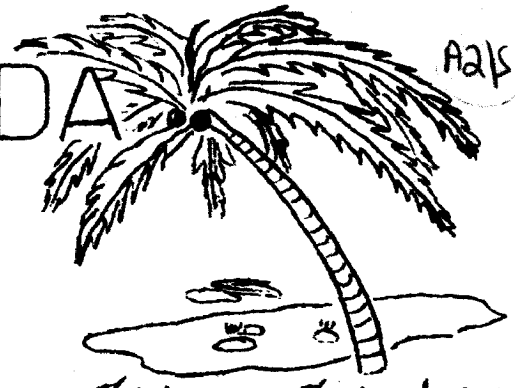
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WE'RE GETTING ORGANISED

# MANINGRIDA

## MIRAGE

### Vol.129



A2/S

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 1972

## Today Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

The inaugural (first) meeting of FAMCO (First Aboriginal Mining Company) will be held at Maningrida today.

Representatives from Goulburn Island and Maningrida, company solicitor Mr. Alec Rorrison of Darwin who will be the FAMCO Secretary will come, along with delegates from Elcho Is., Milingimbi, and Oenpelli who have all expressed interest and will attend today's meeting as observers. Also present will be Mr. George Darling, General Manager of McIntyre Mines (Aust.) and Mr. George Alcorn, General Manager of Ocean Resources.

The company will elect a chairman, appoint directors, and attend to legal and financial matters.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Ganardba Garden

The first meeting of the Ganardba Garden Proprietors Ltd. will also be held. A list of 29 Ganardba men living here and elsewhere has been drawn up and to these in due course the names of the women will be added. The Ganardba people will elect a chairman, secretary and committee.

The Proprietors will apply for a 100 acre lease of land at the Cadell when the N.T. Lands Board makes their next visit on April 12th.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Promise System Under Fire

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 5.30PM ON 20/3/72

PRESENT: 12 Councillors and 2 visitors.

PROMISE MARRIAGES: 1. Council debated the promise marriage system with reference to specific cases. General opinion was that there was an urgent need to make changes to the system but that the majority of older people were as yet unprepared to move in this way. Cr. Munyal expressed the opinion that some mothers held their daughters out as enticement to prospective husbands whilst the girls were young and then drew them back again when they were old enough. The mothers wanted their daughters to stay in their own camp and do the work.

2. Paddy Fordham (visitor) addressed Council. He criticised Council for not getting out to the people enough. He pointed out that Maningrida people needed to change some of their ways but were resisting this course. He said that in other places like Bamyili people were changing. He also said that Maningrida people had to unite -- they couldn't go on hating one, tribe to tribe.

President said that Paddy had outlined local problems very well. He agreed on the need for unity and promoted it at all times. Closer unity should precede changes.

## Council Cont.

NOMINATION- Cr. Brown nominated Paddy Fordham to Council. President deferred nomination for one week so that councillors could consider it.

UNIFORMS: Cr. Yirinyin said that Council should withdraw uniforms of "dead" councillors. Agreed.

ELECTION: There was a proposal to elect new councillors. The matter was deferred for a week to give councillors a chance to think about it.

Cr. Brown said that he wanted to stand-down from night duties for a month or so. For a rest. He couldn't understand why other councillors didn't help.

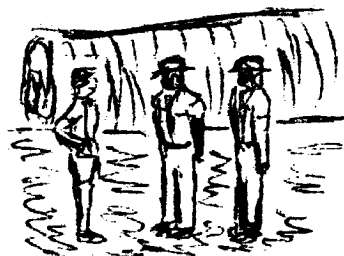
VISIT: Superintendent outlined proposed visit by Dr. Lloyd Barber on Tuesday. It was decided to nominate six councillors to host the visit. They are to be President (leader), J. Baleiya, J. Riala, M. Brown, J. Fry. B. Yirinyin, and R. Munyal.

## More Canadians.

Last Tuesday Maningrida received a visit by Dr. Lloyd Barber, a Commissioner of Inquiry appointed by the Canadian Government to enquire into grievances arising from the expropriation of Indian lands. Dr. Barber is visiting Australia and New Zealand to learn something of native affairs generally in the two countries. On his visit to Maningrida he was accompanied by his wife and an officer of the Canadian Foreign Service, Mr. Bob Appelbaum.

The visitors were met and hosted by representatives of the Maningrida Council, led by the President Mr. Tom Yibberal. They saw something of the various activities at Maningrida including the M.P.A., school, home management, sawmill and craft centres as well as having discussions with the Councillors and other persons.

On his departure Dr. Barber was presented with a bark painting by the Council President. Dr. Barber said that he felt that the visit had been of value to him and that he saw many features, particularly in relation to development, which were shared by the aborigines at Maningrida and the people of Northern Canada. He was impressed by the work of the Maningrida Council and by the attitudes of the Council representatives. He particularly hoped that he could return at some time in the future to review developments.



Council President's opinion of Doctor Barber - "By Gee, does that bloke know a few things!"

## Police Visit

Const. Allan Douglas visited Maningrida this week to investigate various problems. Two young girls were interviewed in connection with the theft of goods from the shop last month. He made enquiries in connection with the theft of some tools from the Fisheries and also carried out interviews on the famous prowler case - no leads here as yet.



The owners of unregistered vehicles received attention, also unlicensed drivers. All persons are once again reminded that it is an offence to drive an unregistered vehicle, or drive without a proper licence, on any of the roads at Maningrida.

## Gridian Group (WOMENS LIB?)

The next meeting of the Gridian Group will be held next Wednesday night at the home of Mrs. Shirley Mason. Mrs. Lynn Berryman will co-hostess the evening.

## Men's Basketball

Tues March 28<sup>th</sup>  
7pm Eagles v Cape St  
8pm Pioneers v Kupanga

Thurs. March 30<sup>th</sup>  
7pm M.P.A. v Jinang  
8pm Cadell Br. v Garat

## A Fine Feathered Friend

Shortly before Maningrida was established, there was a large tame white-breasted sea eagle in the John Godowa Snr's family. John used to talk to him and say: "I'm hungry, my son. You go and get fish for me." He would go out in a canoe and the eagle would hover over the water and then dive for a mullet, skinny or little turtle, pick it up and drop it in the canoe.



Back on the beach, "father" John would cook the fish and eat some of it himself. He would throw the rest to his "son" who would satisfy himself and then curl up to sleep.

This homely eagle was well known to people like Mr. Trevor Miliken and Mr. Gordon Sweeney and aboriginal people, Horace Guningbal says. Charlie Wokkala, then a 10 year old boy, climbed up to a nest on Juda Point and brought it down. John looked after it and as it grew, clipped its wings. By the time it was fully grown it was content to live with the family.

The eagle came to an unhappy end during a Wet Season when either a dog or some other hungry creature killed him for food.

## Stocktaking --- Helpers Needed.

The Store will be closed all day on Tuesday 28th. March for stock-taking.

Hasty Tasty and Bakery will be open. Usual hours on 28th.

Volunteers to assist in the stocktaking are needed. Please advise Mr. Graham Inglis, even if you can come for only a short period.

## Co-Ord and Connair.

As a new Heron sat on the air strip on Monday morning (giving every passenger a fright as it flew in 1½ hours ahead of the regular passenger Heron.) and smartly uniformed Connair pilots moved about the settlement, transport executives of Co-Ord. and Connair discussed the possibility and feasibility of transporting perishables (grapes, strawberries etc. etc.) from the South by air to communities ranging from Kununurra in the West, to Garden Point and Croker Island in the North and Gove, Groote and Nutwood Downs in the East.

At present everything is in the investigation stage.

## Death of Well Known Builder

Mr. Hugo Leinas died suddenly in Frances Creek on Saturday March 11th. of a cerebral haemorrhage. "Apparently it was to do with working on ladders at heights.... the funeral was on Tuesday 14th." writes his friend Mr. Oskar Lapa.

Hugo used to be on the Mobile Works Force Staff in 1966-7. He was well known in the Territory and at Mt. Isa.

## Health Happening.

Johnny Batt has done it again.

One evening he was very sick, convulsing, vomiting and going into unconsciousness. Sister Margaret Ralston had to sit up all night with him.

Next morning ??..... he was full of beans. Johnny is 3 year old son of Alan Margianga and Judy Mindjararmaraya.

Sister Jan Powells came out on the Medical plane to give Morbilli (measles) injections. She started at the hospital waiting for patients to come. Then she found that it was easier to travel around the village and 'spear' the victims as they come within range of the truck.

Sister Ena is in Darwin Hospital. She had managed quite a full week-end duty period and was taken in on the "medical plane" on Tuesday. Sister Cec. had some minor surgery in Dn. on Monday.

## Parents and Friends

The Parents and Friends Association held its first meeting under its new executive on Tuesday night. The meeting was well attended, and a number of European parents were present, which is a heartening trend.

The headmaster is to be given a vote of \$75 per month to be used, at his discretion, for incidental requirements which may be needed from time to time; e.g. a special book, a supply of glue for Pre-school, a new tool for the Manual Training section, or a course of Valium for the infants' teachers.

The financial situation of the P. & F. is relatively low, but it now seems to be clear of the woods. Picture takings have recently been excellent and a steady credit balance should now begin to accrue.

There was some discussion on the use of the school vehicle. The use of the vehicle will continue to be confined to weekly school use and weekend school outings (for which a hiring charge will be levied). The maintenance and general welfare of the vehicle will be the responsibility of the headmaster and Bruce Neale of the Manual Training Section. A log of expenditure and receipts in connexion with the school truck will be kept, and it is expected that the truck will be able to pay its way and not require funding by the P. & F., except in the case of major repair.

The Secretary is to write to 16-Millimetre and ask for a Western or adventure film to be sent on pay Friday nights as this type of film is most popular with audiences. It was recognized that European members of the audience may wish to see other types of programmes as well. The current film catalogue will be available with Jack Gardiner if people wish to indicate preferences. However, the films asked for are not always available immediately.

D. G.

## Sports Committee

A short time ago at the school, a meeting of some importance took place. This was a meeting to attempt to establish a Sports Committee at Maningrida to co-ordinate sporting activities and to raise funds to provide facilities etc.

After general discussion the meeting decided eventually that the following people were elected as office bearers:

President: Joe Fry                      Treasurer (1): Larry Weipa  
Vice President: Roger Pink        Treasurer (2): Trevor King  
Secretary (1): Liz Wicks  
Secretary (2): Lucky Balarka  
Committee members: Ron Berryman; Tin Darcy; Michael Brown;  
Jimmy Olsen; George Putti.

Congratulations to all those elected! The meeting was well attended by 25 - 30 people. It represents a step forward for sport at Maningrida and an opportunity for aboriginal sportsmen to take a more active part in administering recreational activities. We wish the committee success.

## This Weeks Weather

Day	Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.	Max. Hum.	Rain.
Fri.	84	79	97%	62 pts.
Sat.	79	74	95%	70 "
Sun.	86	73	95%	1 pt. dew
Mon.	87	76	95%	1 " "
Tues.	88.5	76.5	95%	95 "
Wed.	88.5	73	95%	10 "
Thurs.	89	75.5	95%	-

Strangely enough the highest humidity reading is between 2-6a.m. When the sun rises the humidity drops to approx. 75%.

# On The Traralgon Trail

Mr. Charlie Godjuwa returned from a course in Darwin last week and has written this story. )

Jim Walbaraka, Skip and I left Darwin at one o'clock in the morning and flew to Adelaide. We got there in the morning. Then we got a taxi that took us to where Mr. Bagshaw's car was being taken care of. We took the car and on the same day headed for Victoria. It was evening when we arrived there. At Dandenong we stopped for dinner and went into a shop to buy one hamburger each. It only cost us 25 cents each. We ate them inside the Holder. Then we headed for Traralgon.

Its only about 100 miles away from Melbourne. We got to Traralgon at about 11.30p.m. We stayed there for two weeks. Then we went to a place called Wilson's Promontory and stayed there for two days. It was very beautiful. The people were swimming, surfing, fishing and riding on their boats. While we were there, we met Skip's sister and brother in law.



On the back, we stopped at Adelaide and went up to Bridgewater to see Mr. Bill Scott and his family. Charlie played the didjeridoo and we sang. They were happy to see us. We had tea with them.

We had a very good holiday.

C.G.

## Overland To Maningrida by J. Cooper.

Well, folks, I suppose that some of you wouldn't believe this story, because some of you would think it silly - to walk from Darwin to Maningrida in a time like this. In fact some of the people were telling my wife, Jill, that I couldn't walk from Darwin by myself.

The trip began when I ran into Tommy John, Billy John (Ganardba) and Jacky Dennis Nagajira about 16 miles from Darwin turnoff toward Howard Springs. I was really lucky to run into these fellows before it got dark.

Before we left the 16 Mile, we had a little meeting among ourselves. "What would we do? Should we start walking now or wait until first thing in the morning? Anyhow Jacky Dennis got up and said. "We'll start walking now fellas, while its cool. So we started walking from the 16 Mile and got a lift for about half a mile. from where we left the place. It took us as far as the 22 Mile, just this side of where the Hotel-Hotel on the Humpty Doo road. This same road leads to Oenpelli Mission and to Maningrida. We walked about ten or more miles before we stopped and had two (2) and a half hour s rest and then started walking again until about (1) one o'clock in the morning. We could not go any further. So we went to sleep.



It was about six (6) o'clock in the morning, when I was the first to get up. My head was nearly being picked up by a black crow. We were lucky because we heard a car coming from Darwin and it was the one and only white hunter Peter Thompson. In fact Peter was camping on the side of the road himself. Anyhow we asked about old Frank GatiGati and Micky Jawaragara because they had always been working with him, on his tour business both at Humpty Doo. He told us that old Frank was home at his place, and so he drove us there. He asked Jacky Dennis if he could work for him when the Wet season is over. I think that Jacky is waiting for the job, because they are going to make a film, maybe through Arnhemland. Anyhow it was Tuesday afternoon when we left old Frank and Peter Thompson's homestead.

About (2) two o'clock in the afternoon we passed Beatrice Hill and we walked about half a mile to the Adelaide River Bridge - that s the mouth of the Adelaide River, toward the Mt. Bunday iron mine. Anyway, before we got to the bridge we heard a truck coming our way. Billy John didn't have any trouble stopping the truck for us. It was the Animal Industries mob. The truck took us as far as Point Stuart and the Jimmy Creek tunoff.

## The Cost Of Christmas.

End of Part 1.

A bark painter<sup>arrived</sup> at the Mussig residence to announce that he had painted a bark for Jim as a Christmas present. It would cost him \$12.

# From The Newspapers

## TWO DANCING STORIES:



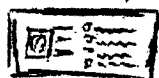
(1) Ten people from the Waugaitc tribe from Delissaville, who dance at Mica Beach, have been down south to dance for people there. They went in a bus to South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. They danced aboriginal dances and also some of them played electric guitar and drums for dancing. Some of the dancers were at the Eisteddfod last year.



(2) Lance Bennet, who visited Maningrida last year, was talking in the newspaper this week. He is going to take dancers from the Top End of Australia up to Fiji in a few months time. There, people from many countries will come together to show their customs and music, dancing and singing. It is good for other countries to know about aboriginal music and dancing and for us to learn about their music.



YIRRKALA GARDENS: At Yirrkala the mission is making its garden bigger. This is because the people at the big mining town nearby need more fruit and vegetables. About 50 people work in the gardens at Yirrkala. The mission sells the food and uses the money to help Yirrkala grow bigger.



YOUNG PEOPLE VOTING: The law for voting says that a man or a woman has to be 21 years old before they can vote to pick the men who will be in the Government. Now some people say this law should be changed and anyone who is 18 years old should have a vote. Some states of Australia have already made this new law and soon the others might change too.

D. G.

## The Big Women Fly

..... and fly they did; as the Dots'n'Dashes clashed in a superb game with the mighty Marrijalas at Monday night's women's basketball match.

A grand final atmosphere prevailed as both, players and spectators, became "rapt" in the play. Tension was high and constant throughout the two hours' playing - the pace of which can be largely attributed to the excellent umpiring by Jimmy Pascoe and Fred Luff.

RESULTS

1. Dots'n'Dashes	31	d. Marrijalas	25
2. Albatrosses	26	d. Cobras	23

Highest Scorers:

1. Daisy	(10)	for Dots'n'Dashes
2. Mandy	(16)	for Marrijalas
3. Mavis	(20)	for Cobras
4. Nora	(10)	for Albatrosses

### NEXT WEEK'S DRAW:

Monday, 20th

1. Marrijalas vs. Cobras (7.00 p.m.)  
Umpires R. Pink and J. Pascoe
2. Albatrosses vs. Dots'n'Dashes (8.00 p.m.)  
Umpires R. Pink and J. Pascoe

Practices: Every Thursday afternoon from 4.30 p.m. on.

LADDER

1. Dots'n'Dashes
2. (Marrijalas  
Albatrosses)
3. Cobras

M. N.

(This article had the misfortune to oversleep in a reporter's file for a week; apologies for its late appearance).

## R FOR OUR INFORMATION

There are now 40 commercial barramundi licences in the Territory compared with 47 issued for the whole of 1971. Most of the barramundi caught is sold to wholesale distributors at 67½ cents a pound. Some commercial fishermen supply hotels, restaurants and shops direct, and a small proportion of the catch goes interstate, mainly to Mt Isa.

At the Maningrida Settlement the six boats working from the Administration project and three others working under the guidance of the fisheries officer took a total of 100,000 pounds of fish last year.

Most of this catch was put through the Maningrida kitchen for school children and young children.

Included in this catch were some oysters gathered by a group of women and sold on their account through the progress association store. Some experiments have been set up at the settlement for oyster culture purposes.

The fishing project employs two Aborigines under normal employment condition and 15 trainees.

At the peak of the season up to 36 people are engaged in work connected with fisheries under the guidance of the fisheries officer.

At the Umbakumba Settlement current monthly production of all types of fish from the three boats is in excess of 200 lbs of processed fish.

In its first year of operation the project paid back a portion of the loan provided for its establishment, and in addition showed a profit.

True story ?

(Reprinted from the Northern Territory News)

## BIRDS ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT

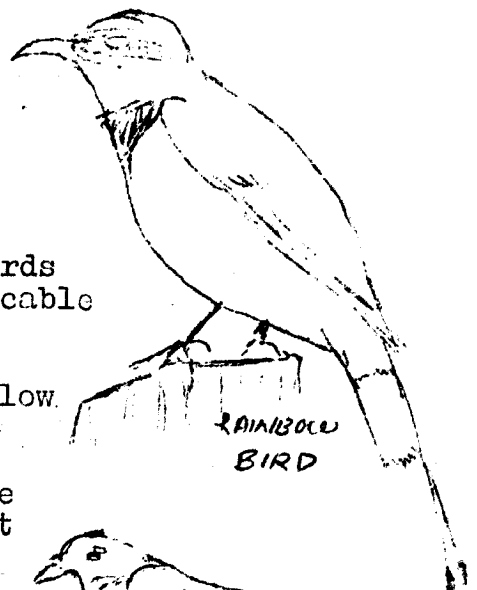
Rainbow Birds are still in their large numbers. Sometimes it is difficult to see its rainbow colours if you do not see them in good light. They feed on insects, and are very active at dusk.

White-breasted Wood-Swallows are other birds that feed on insects and are particularly noticeable at dusk. They are a pleasant shade of delicate grey and snow white, and often seen perched on power lines. We also have the Little Wood-Swallow here, but that chap is not so common.

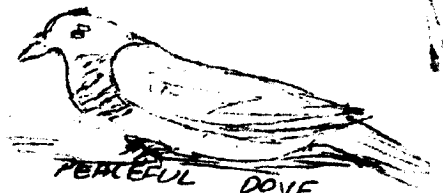
Pied Butcherbirds are really in full voice at the moment and VERY common. Dressed in smart black and white it dines on almost any type of meat, such as nestling birds, lizards, etc. You can't help but hear them in the morning; It has a clear, fresh, and beautiful song.

Long-tailed Finches which suddenly arrived at Christmas are still here in just as large numbers feeding on the plentiful supply of grass seeds. Except for the occasional Crimson Finch and Double-barred Finch that may wander into the place, they are the only finch so common at the moment.

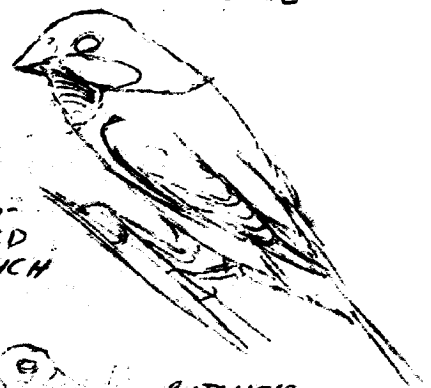
Peaceful Doves are always with us, in pairs or small parties. They are a delicate shade of grey and grey-blue and will be seen quietly feeding on the ground. They are the only small dove in the settlement, but out bush you may come across the Partridge Pigeon or the Diamond Dove.



RAINBOW BIRD



PEACEFUL DOVE



LONG-TAILED FINCH



BUTCHER BIRD

## UNEXPECTED RESULTS

From reliable reports, Mr Hunter's diet is showing signs of great success; Mr Wilders has had to tighten his belt by two notches.

## "FEATHERS"

## WEEKEND DUTIES

Duty Officer Ron Berryman  
Duty Sister Sister Helen

## STAR THEATRE

Friday: "John Goldfarb, Please Come Home", with Shirley Maclaine, Peter Ustinov, and Richard Greene. A modern fable, a crazy comedy that pokes fun at most of the sacred cows of civilisation.

Saturday: "Flipper and The Pirates" (As on TV) Stars Luke Halpin, Pamela Franklin. A story about a boy and his pet dolphin.

## CHURCH

Palm Sunday 9.30 am Sunday Schools  
 7.00 pm Evening Service  
Wednesday 7.00 pm Crusader Fellowship  
Good Friday 9.30 am Service



## PEOPLE AND PLACES

Mr. & Mrs. Roy Rewa and family travelled to Elcho Island on Monday

Mr. & Mrs. Rod Seymour are due home from their holidays in the banana bending state today.

Mr. Rodger Brooks well known N.Z. mining mechanic has arrived in Darwin and waiting to be dropped onto the Mt Borodale airstrip by helicopter.

With the return of prospecting activity Stephen Gawulgu and Crowfoot are ready to resume their jobs.

Val and Toni Toser arrived at Maningrida on Monday to visit the Pickersgills, but their means of arrival proved to be a comedy of errors that would prove hard to beat. Starting off from Brisbane by Pioneer bus, they got as far as Longreach (April Elliott country - almost) but had to turn back to Brisbane because of flooded roads. Mr. Pioneer, not to be either outdone or embarrassed by a little rain, put our travellers on a plane to Mt Isa. On the bus again at Mt Isa they thought they were in for more fun at Adelaide Rv., but that bus was not to be outdone and the bus rolled into Darwin - a week or two late

On top of all this Ena had to leave for Darwin the day after her sister (Val) arrived.

## This Weeks Basketball

Monday witnessed yet another fantastic night of basketball. There was just too much energy expended as legs, arms, and bodies met in high pressure 'never say die' competition.

### Last week's results

Marrijalas 50, Cobras 26  
 Dots and dashes 40, Albatrosses 23  
 Best Scores: Betty (Mjls), Nancy (Cobras), Margaret (D & D), and Nora (Alb) each with 18 points.

### This week's Draw 27th March

\* Cobras Vs Dots and Dashes  
 Start 7.00 pm  
 \*  
 \* Albatrosses Vs Marrijalas  
 Start 8.00 pm  
 \* Umpires T.King and Albert 1st.  
 \* F.Luff and Albert 2nd.  
 \*

## YOU ARE INVITED .....

Chris and Gwen request all and sundry to a

BOUZER BEAUT  
 BAR + BEE QUE

SATURDAY NIGHT 8.00 PM APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Come as a fool or as you are, but whatever you come as, be sure its bottler B.Y.O.G. + Salad.



**Maningrida Mirage**

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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