



# MANINGRIDA MIRAGE

Vol 132

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April 1972

## Dancing News

David Gulpilil, Dick Bundalil and Talbert Bomaduda are now definitely going to the South Pacific Festival of Arts in May with dancing men from the N.T. and Queensland. They will spend two weeks in Fiji after a stay in Sydney for rehearsal. As well as dancing they will be demonstrating spear throwing in a couple of places.

In the theatre in Suva where they will perform, the dancers will be showing the people how body painting is done before the dancing starts. We also hear that they are to be fitted out with an original Mike Treloar suit created specially for the occasion.

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## The Crane Which Dat Down on The Job?

Just after lunch on Tuesday, as it was placing the second steel span for the new Community Hall, the Brambles crane felt a little overcome. With a bit of clanking it fell over on its side and had a short rest.

Fortunately, neither the operator nor any of the other workmen were injured. The crane sustained some damage to the cabin area. The accident was hot news amongst the schoolchildren for the rest of the afternoon.

Later in the day the crane was pulled back on its feet by the famous Galion grader, piloted by Skip. This feat was greeted with a mighty cheer from the young and enthusiastic audience.

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## Council.

### MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 APRIL 1972.

PRESENT: Present were 16 Councillors and 2 visitors.

### BUSINESS ARISING:

1. Recommended to see Mrs. Neale re basketry instruction
  - a. Nikki Jinbibima
  - b. Daisy Najundanga
  - c. Margaret Naliva
  - d. Roy Marlulu's sister.
2. Debate resumed on the matter of free access to reserves by Legislative Councillors. Council decided that it was a good idea for Legislative Councillors to have free access to reserve area.
3. Debate resumed on the matter of a nomination to the A.B.T.F. Advisory Committee. Moved Cr. Putti and seconded Cr. Baleiya that the President be nominated. Motion carried.
4. A letter from the Superintendent, Bamyili was read to Council. He felt that a sporting and dance visit by Bamyili people would be a good idea and suggested that it might become an annual event. Council agreed that the weekend 5-6-7 August would be suitable and that in addition to dancers, football and basketball

## Council Continued

teams (transport permitting) would be a good idea.

### NEW BUSINESS: CLUB:

The President outlined a number of bad things which were happening at the Club. Council decided to modify the beer issue procedures to overcome these problems; to commence Tuesday night. On roster this week:

President  
Cr. Gingingaralil

### JOBS:

Cr. Riala said that more men could be used on building jobs. Debate ensued. President said that he was going to get hold of some men who were not working, and just sitting in camp.

### WATER SUPPLY:

Cr. Riala said that he did not like to see the old stock-watering point at the corner used by people as it was too public. President said that the top camp had not got a water tap at all (except the one in question) and that a point should be provided. It was decided to examine ways and means of providing a water point in the middle of the camp.

### DROP-IN CLUB:

Cr. Riala said that he had heard that 5c admission was being charged to Drop-In Club. Why? President said that money was used to buy games and provide tea, sugar, etc.

### VEHICLES:

Cr. Fordham complained that vehicles, particularly motor-bikes, were travelling too fast and that some had no lights. There might be an accident. Superintendent agreed and said that he would ask Police to check every vehicle on Settlement next visit to see that it complied with registration requirements.

## Tragic Deaths

On Wednesday morning Mrs. Topsy Yalpur was at the hospital and not feeling at all well. Then she suddenly collapsed and died. Topsy was one of the best known younger women on the Settlement. She worked as a laundress in the School.

We express our deepest sympathy to Barney (Baybananga), her husband, to her children and the rest of her family, and to Tommy Yibberal and Jumbo her brothers.

George Balala was knocked down by a car beside the Stuart Highway near Berrimah on Sunday night. He was thirty years of age, and a brother of Jimmy Ngalakun.

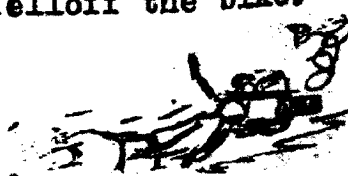
In earlier days, George showed promise as a cook and for a time was the leading hand cook in the kitchen.

He was one of several young Maningrida men who have been killed in road accidents in Darwin.

## Hunting

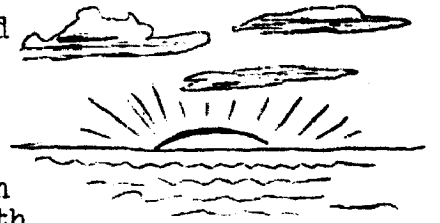
On Saturday morning about 9.30, we were hunting at Nayurrwara in between Rocky Point and Point in the Goose truck, with Jack his wife, some women and men, and Mr. and Mrs. Neale riding on a motor bike. While we were on our way just near the fire tower, the wire which was connected to the plugs came off and we had to stop and fix it. Mr. and Mrs. Neale went on their way ahead and stopped at the Cadell Road (or Kupanga Road) and Mrs. Neale came back on the bike to see what had happened to us or maybe the truck. Half way to Gadjerama Creek crossing the truck slowed down and once again, we had to fix it and push it on its way.

When we were approaching Nayurrwara beach it began to rain. Mr. and Mrs. Neale were ahead of us when riding to the beach, and do you know what happened to them? As Mr. Neale was turning back, because of the bad sand and mud, they felloff the bike. When we came to Mrs. Neale, she said, "I've got sure bingy" Jack parked the truck under the trees and also Mr. Neale! Three of us went fishing but we could hardly see the fish because of the rain.



# Milingimbi

Here at Maningrida we see some magnificent sunsets - the more beautiful because of the coloured reflections on the estuary. In Milingimbi it is the rising sun which climbs up out of the sea. Brad Harris' home looks directly out upon this and he, with a feeling for the water as well, says "Magnificent!!" despite the sandflies which like to nibble at people in that part of the earth.



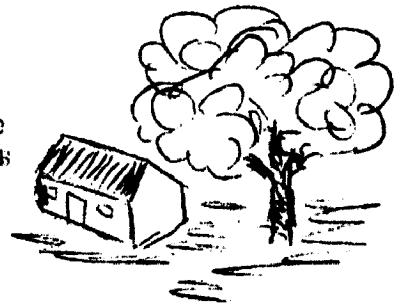
In two interesting days there, I saw several ex-Maningrida people.

Jacky Ungulbu, who had been away hunting on one of the islands, was busy 'polishing' some spear shafts. He was asking about Maningrida people and maybe would like to come back. Margaret Gunguwidja was looking well and Joyce was at school.

Living nearby is Clarrie Miribanga who is eagerly looking forward to Juliet coming over to be his wife, presently.

While talking to Jacky Morlurk by the store, some giggling girls went by. I looked across at them and saw that one was Ada. She smiled, giggled again and quickly disappeared into the shop with her friends. Jack is very much concerned about his family.

A highlight was the meeting with Number One Law Man, Number One Doctor, Mr. Ray Baku. It was good to hear that old laugh again. Baku was on the way to catch the boat across to Ngangalala. He has been living at Yatlanara with Malangi (painter of the bark part of which was used for the \$1 note pattern) and has planted bananas, pawpaws and coconuts at Gadji.



Some Milingimbi-ites well known at Maningrida - John Baya is working in the Craft Room. Bungawuy is growing a grey goatee beard as befits a senior man of his age. John Laklak is quite a valuable man in the shop.

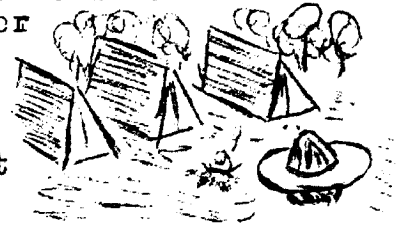
Every town in Arnhemland has an appeal of its own, something which no other place has. Milingimbi has the huge tamarind trees, stretching along the beach and standing up around the Macassan well. If they could talk, they would have some interesting stories to tell.

G. A.

## Scouts Camping at Rocky Point. by L Weipa

We arrived at Rocky Point at 12 noon on Good Friday. We set out to make a fire and have lunch. Straight after we made 3 tents for troops. When we had made our tents Skip said to the leaders: "Get the drag net." So we went to drag it around in the water to get some fish. The first time we tried but we didn't get many fish, only a few.

Then we went back to the camp for tea. We had some few fish and then we sang a few songs and went to bed.



On Saturday morning Raynond Nalur got out of bed and made our breakfast. We had a rest till 1.30 p.m. and then came into Maningrida at 2 p.m. to play football. Some of the boys stayed at Rocky Point to look after the gear that we left behind. After the game, Skip went back to pick up the boys to see the pictures. When the pictures were over, we went back camping again.

On Sunday morning I got out of bed to set breakfast and then cleaned the camp up. Then we went fishing - two boys went to Navy Landing - Tin Darcy and Maurice. Some of the boys went to Crab Creek to fish there and got a few crabs and fish. We cooked our own and ate it all up. After fishing we went back to camp. At night we made a camp fire to sing a song. Two boys were doing a little bit of action for us at the camp fire, - Barry and Charlie. At the same time, one boy went fishing at night and got a shark.



# Ears.



Mr. Dennis Strand, from the new branch of Welfare Education, spoke to the Health Committee last week about hearing problems among Aboriginal children. A survey in which he had been involved showed that the Aboriginals from the desert areas had the greatest proportion of "middle-ear" infections per population of all the people in the world. Goulburn Island had no trouble.

He quoted figures relating to Maningrida's school children;

1969            7 with middle ear infections  
1972            34 with middle ear infections.

In answer to Mr. Hunter's question about combatting deafness he said that nobody knew a specific cure but by improving general living conditions deafness could be controlled. It was proposed to look at the list of children affected at Maningrida and then survey their living conditions, hygiene and food intake.

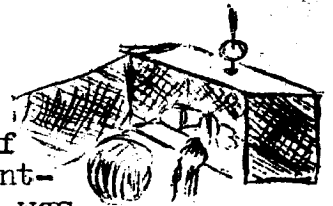
## Cost of living

Dr. Jacobs reported to a recent Health Committee meeting that a survey of 40 Maningrida Aboriginal families revealed that

- a) One third had no hope of living adequately on their available income;
- b) one third could just live if they took no tobacco, clothes etc., i.e. if all the money was spent on food;
- c) the remaining third could just maintain an adequate living if they managed their funds wisely.

Food costs were taken off a very basic dietary scale and worked out at about \$3 per head per week plus the cost of meat. Meat is an important factor in determining whether or not funds were adequate. In the survey, meat had been averaged at 75 cents per lb. and costs were based on Darwin prices.

## Health Matters



The Health Committee has decided that a survey of breakfast habits should be made. Mr. Tom Yibberal pointed out that people found it hard to store food, so it was resolved to order a couple of meat safes to demonstrate storage.

Matters to be brought to the notice of the Health Board of Enquiry were discussed e.g. the need for a hostel in Darwin to accommodate Aboriginal outpatients or people awaiting repatriation. The Chairman will write a letter giving advance notice to the Board.

### IN BRIEF:

Mrs. Anids reported that people in the new Housing Association houses were looking after their homes very well and were keen to improve their standard of living.

## Mens Basketball

### RESULTS:

Thursday, 6th April, 1972: -

Kupanga 48 d. Cadell 42  
Pioneers 40 d. Eagles 32

Tuesday, 11th April, 1972: -

Pioneers 30 d. Jinang 22  
Cadell 41 d. Eagles 40

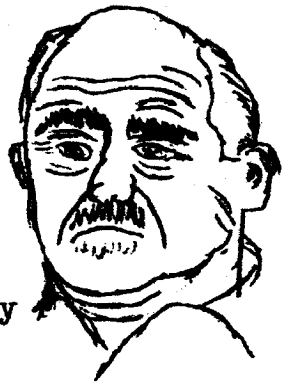
Points so far: -	M.P.A., Pioneers, Cape Stewart	6
	Eagles, Garatpu, Kupanga	4
	Cadell	2
	Jinang	0



## From The Newspapers

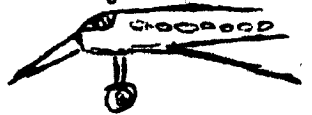
### "UNDERSTANDING"

Professor Stanner, a man who has studied the Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory for many years and has written many books, was speaking in the papers this week. He said that he was worried that many Government men who made laws for helping the Aboriginal people did not understand the Aboriginal life. They thought that all the customs and ceremonies were finished or nearly dead, but really in many places they are still strong. Professor Stanner said that no one from the Government had asked him about Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory, but he knows many things and could help. He said that if people in Australia wanted to understand the Aboriginals they must 'think black' instead of 'thinking white'.



### "CONCORDE COMES TO N.T."

The Concorde jet, a plane that flies faster than the speed of sound (1400 m.p.h.) will come to Darwin in June to be shown to Australian people. It will go to Sydney and Melbourne too. The Concorde will make flying from Australia to America or England very fast - from Sydney to London in 11 hours.



## Snakes

It would seem that rain has a strange effect on snakes. While travelling with "Skip" on Saturday morning after the rain, we saw no fewer than three snakes on the road between the main turn-off and Gudjerama Ck. crossing. One very colourful one we managed to capture, and it was indeed a fine specimen. It had many colours, but the most striking were iridescent blues and yellows. It only had a small head and thin body, but it was quite long (5 ft) with a very slender tail. You don't often call a snake beautiful, but this chap was. While we were trying to capture it, it stood up some 18" off the ground and puffed his neck out like an Indian Cobra. On Monday he took a plane trip to the Wildlife Section of N.T.A., and we hope to receive a very interesting letter as we received last time.

J.G.

## Classified Advertisements

GRADER DRIVER, experienced on heavy machines seeks contract employment. Can be contacted at Scout Hall.

FOR SALE, one Gallion Grader plus operator's manual.

FOUND, plates and other sundry items left at the Burchett party are now available for collection.

## Comment of The Week.

Heavy rainfall coincided with the arrival of the barge on Saturday. The Skipper happened to ask a well known Maningridian why the Wet was so late here, to which the reply was, "We get ours through N.T.A. stores."

ANOM.

## Parents And Friends

At the April Meeting only 12 Balandars were present, Aboriginals being most conspicuous by their absence. The Treasurer's report showed the Association to be quite financial. The meeting was told of the Auditor's visit, and some comments were made in respect of the insurance of the school truck. Concern was felt by all those present at the meeting over staffing and equipping of the new Resource Centre. Mention was made of the Eisteddford, just around the corner, and next meeting an "Estimate of Expenditure" will be presented by the teachers concerned.

J.G.

## Hunting Story Continued.

I caught one small fish of about 1½ lbs. When Toby and I came back, we were standing by the fire under the pandanus palms shivering from the cold rain. Last of all we came back to the Settlement. On the way back, the floods covered the road. Then safely home J. Pascoe.

## Volleyball

On Sunday afternoon at school we had an exciting game. Men from Eagle Constructions and Forestry came along but only a few "Chalkies" arrived for the game, so we had to play a mixed game.

It's good to see junior and senior schoolboys in their teams. On Sunday's match Reflections won the first match against School. Chalkies 3 points lost 3. Fish & Chips 2 lost 4 points. School 3 points lost 3 also in the final match.

So far, Reflections are top, then Chalkies, Fish & Chips and last School (who have just started.) Volleyball will be on until 24th. Sept. The game starts at 4.30p.m. as usual. J. Pascoe.

## Woman's Basketball

Due to rain, last Monday evening's basketball was postponed. The same competition will be played on Saturday evening.

DRAW FOR SATURDAY (15.4.72)

7 pm Marrijalas Vs Cobras

8 pm Albatrosses Vs Dots 'n' Dashes

Umpires: Fred Luff, Tom Wudjal

Hopefully, normal competition will be resumed next Monday evening.

DRAW FOR MONDAY (17.4.72)

7 pm Cobras Vs Dots 'n' Dashes

8 pm Albatrosses Vs Marrijalas

Umpires: Fred Luff and Jimmy Pascoe

CURRENT COMPETITION POINT SCORE

Dots 'n' Dashes 9

Albatrosses 6

Marrijalas 5

Cobras 0

## Weekend Duties

M. Neale

Duty Officer Mr. Barry Tuite

Duty Sister Str. Maija

## Church

Friday Night: Not arrived at time of press, but will be on.

Sunday: Second Sunday after Easter

9.30 am Sunday Schools

7.00 pm Holy Communion

Film "Triumph and Defeat"

Wednesday: 7.00 pm Crusader's Fellowship.

"I find that in many things I must simply trust the Lord to manage his own affairs. I have often been comforted by remembering that he knows how to bring good out of what seems to me to be only evil"

Mildred Duff, of The Salvation Army.

+ + +

"MEN'S BASKETBALL" (Continued from page 4).

A couple of weeks ago a young umpire who is learning and does a good job was told to leave by some older men. How can he learn if you send him away? This is not fair. To change an umpire you must ask the two men running the competition (Tim & Lucky) and the captain of the other team.

## Weather

DAY	MAX. TEMP.	RAIN.	DAY	MAX. TEMP.	RAIN.
Friday	90.5	Nil. *	Tuesday	89.0	Nil.
Saturday	90.5	89 pts.*	Wednesday	90.0	Nil. (2pts. Dew)
Sunday	89.0	Nil. *	Thursday	91.0	Nil
Monday	90.0	41 pts.*			

**Maningrida Mirage**

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