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# MANINGRIDA MIRAGE



VOL. 143

Friday, 30th June, 1977



## Beauty in the Bush

On Wednesday morning, linguist Mr Graham McKay was talking to the Rembarrnga men at Guyun when they started to count the scars across their chests.

Then they began to study their chests in a mirror and drew a white or yellow ochre line in the position they felt they would like a new scar - "to make us look beautiful".

The first man in the bush beauty parlour lay down and a young man took a razor blade. With a few deft cuts the incision went from the side around the chest and back along the other side. Then the razor blade broke so fragments of the blade were used on the next man and when these were no longer of any use, glass chips were used!

There was no hurry about the operation. There was time for several smokos, laughs and light-hearted talk. Only two men performed the operations, but all the rest gave advice, including the suggestion to make a cut in one long stroke.

The climax came when they turned to Graham and suggested that they give him one. "You could have one, and in two or three years time when you come back, you could just pull off your shirt and we'd know who you are." Graham replied "Not just at the moment!"

Graham reported that very little blood was shed. No ashes were used and the men lay down in the sun for a quiet sleep when the operations were complete. So the old customs aren't finished yet.

## School Notes

Today Carol Davies hangs up her duster or her boots or whatever it is that teachers hang up, and leaves the Welfare Education Branch. Carol is off to Darwin tomorrow. She is knocking off at close of business on the 30th June and you can't get your Income Tax any tidier than that. Goodbye and good luck to Carol.

The Dry Season cold weather is a shaky time for early risers. We have had some trouble encouraging the children out of bed on the nippy mornings so until the weather warms up again we have moved school back half an hour. Times, including unchanged pre-school, now are:

	<u>Start</u>	<u>Morning Tea</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Finish</u>
<u>Pre-School</u>	8.30	10.00 - 10.15	11.45 - 1.00	3.00
<u>Infants</u>	8.30	10.30 - 11.00	12.15 - 1.30	3.00
<u>Primary and Post Primary</u> }	8.30	10.30 - 11.00	12.30 - 1.30	3.30

D.G

## Betty Meehan coming...

Miss Betty Meehan has written to say that she has arrived in Darwin and expects to leave for Maningrida on July 7th. Betty is driving overland in her Landrover and will go on to stay at Kupanga for several months. At Kupanga she will excavate (dig into) old campsites to find out more about the way people lived in the times past.

## DENTIST

The dentist has arrived and will be staying for 4 weeks. He is based in the infant clinic (mind the bell!)

# Jinang People's Camp Meeting

J. Miritji

George Banbuna, of the Dabi tribe, whose country is around the old Arafura homestead, (although he is now living at Nangalala), came over to Maningrida last Saturday (24 June, 1972) and said that he had come over here to tell us that they wanted all the Jinang people at Maningrida to go back to the country of their forefathers. We asked him: "What about our jobs with Welfare, and our houses, and money, and grog?", but he said that we could get these things even at Nangalala.

The meeting of Jinang people talked about it. Some said it was a good idea, and some said it was no good.

Ray Mnyal said that as soon as the Land Rovers belonging to the Jinang people (nine and Dick Mijirri's) were fixed, we should all go back to Gadgi Creek.

Alec Djinarr said that he and his brother Johnny Maiyara, would go later, but they could not go yet because they had started a new bank account to save up for a truck, so that they could take their father and family and possessions.

Dick Mijirri told about his brother, who left Maningrida, went to Gadgi Creek, and died there without knowing about the sickness, or what was wrong with him. Dick said he wanted to go to where his brother died, so that he could hold the proper ceremony, and burn his brother's belongings in the proper way.

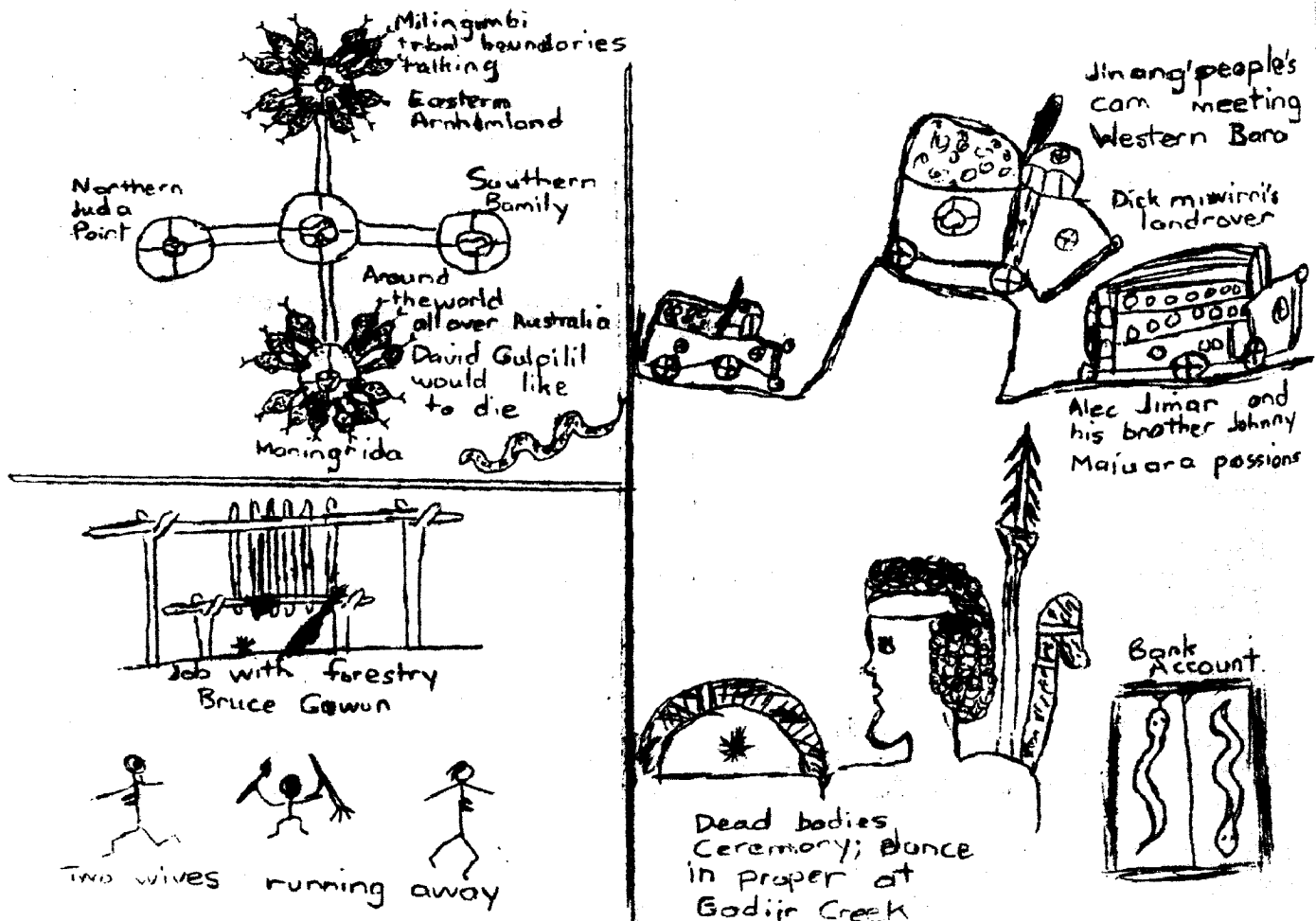
My brother, Dick Jululil, said that he had just recently come back from Nangalala, and he had seen that the Rembarrnga people were working near Gadgi Creek and the mission is helping them in their farming and garden growing at Rurkurrbulu and Malyanganak. Maybe if we went back the Mission (ie. Milinginbi Methodist Mission) would help us too.

David Gulpilil (star of film "Walkabout") spoke about himself, and said: "Don't you people include me in this, because I have my own life now. I don't think of the future, only of today. I have travelled around the world, and all over Australia, and this is what I want to do until I die. My parents want me to stay at Nangalala, because they don't understand that I want this new way of life. I want to die far away from Nangalala."

Bruce Gawun said he would like to go, but not now. Perhaps in a few years' time. He had his job with Forestry, and he was alright. Also he was angry with the Nangalala people because they had not completed this year's Kunapi ceremony properly at Gadgi Creek.

Charlie Ujarabili, he would go back, as long as he didn't have to go through Milinginbi, because his two wives who had run away to Milinginbi before always made trouble for him with other men.

Again George Banbuna asked who would go back to our country with him, but nobody answered. Everybody wants to go back "one day", but they don't really want to go away from all the things they have at the settlement at Maningrida.



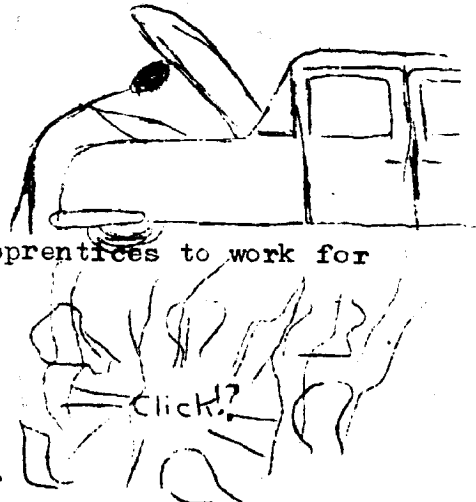
## From the Newspapers.

**NEW KORMILDA BUILDINGS:** The Government will spend more than three million dollars for new buildings at Kormilda College. Already there is one new building of rooms for the students to live in. Four more buildings like this will be built. As well as this the college will have new classrooms, dining room, hall, museum, resources centre, language laboratory, music rooms and sports areas.

Saon 1972	
Pay - Kormilda College	
three million dollars	\$ 3,000,000
Amount in Words	

#umb-print

**GOOD NEWS FOR MANINGRIDA:** Norman Angulagula son of Charlie Anawudjara has signed his papers to become an apprentice motor mechanic. He will go to trade school and work in the Government garage for 4 years to learn everything about being a mechanic. When he is finished he will be a proper mechanic, not just a helper. Jacob Lanses from Roper River will be working with him. They are the first Aboriginal apprentices to work for the Government.



**WORSE THAN THE YELLOW PERIL:** Many people have commented in the past on the habit of American tourists and art buyers who visit Maningrida of furiously clicking their cameras at anything which suffers the misfortune of falling into their fields of vision. This phenomenon has now been recorded on home ground. A recent issue of TIME magazine reveals that in the United States there are an average of 158 amateur photographs taken every second of every minute of every hour, day and night. The end of the world may come not with a bang, not with a whimper, but with a click.

D.G.

**FOOTBALLER DEAD:** Alan McCormack, a footballer player from Wanders football club, was killed on Saturday. His car rolled over on the Humpty Doo road and he was thrown out of the car. He was a Bathurst man, some Maningrida people were friends of Alan's from their time in Darwin.

D.G.

**Our Sympathy.** Alan was the foster son of former Inspector of Schools (Darwin area) Ray Norman. We extend our sympathy to Ray, Norma, and their children in their loss.

### The Hospital

The Hospital Clinic is open on

Weekdays from 7 a.m. - 4p.m.

Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. - 10a.m. 2.30p.m. - 3.30p.m.

The Hospital is closed for morning coffee breaks and meal times from 10a.m. - 10.30 a.m. and 12 midday - 1p.m.

The Hospital is open for sick patients only during the weekends, as only one sister is on duty then.

Emergencies are seen at the hospital from 7.30a.m. - 3.30p.m. on weekends. At other times, see the sister on call at her residence (see the duty roster on the office door.)

For any consultation or enquiries, see sisters within working hospital hours.

The Hospital is usually very busy between 8a.m. - 9.30a.m. on weekdays and during this period, everybody has to wait his/her turn.

For any emergency cases which need doctor's consultation, call early at the hospital as the Radio-Medical times are 8.30 a.m. and 2.15p.m. The patient has to be examined beforehand, and it may take quite a while before all the necessary details are obtained, to be able to give a real picture to the doctor, that he will be able to make a diagnosis and order the correct treatment.

Your co-operation is appreciated.

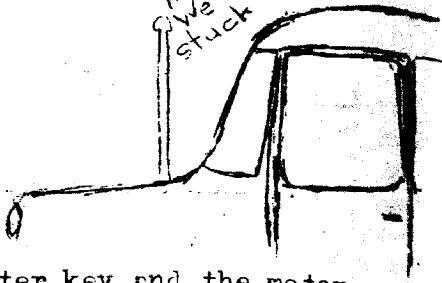
M.L.

## By the Blyth River

Chris Maybes and Roger Davey from Darwin were out here last week with the intention of driving to the crossing on Guyuya Creek via Arafura Swamp. Their vehicle broke down at the Blyth Crossing and after many hours of worry they radioed through a message for assistance.

Bruce Brotherton and I gathered some food and mosquito nets and headed off immediately to insure that we found the unhappy pair before night fall. They were a bit annoyed when Bruce turned the starter key and the motor fired up instantly as they had been trying for hours without success. The trip was really interesting as we hadn't been into the area before and it was quite a different type of country to that closer to Maningrida. Later this year our Plant Operators will see plenty of the new and interesting scenery when they start on the road from Hunters Crossing to Guyuya Creek. We will also be building an airstrip and a permanent camp, about 5 miles east of Hunters Crossing and hope to have men stationed there before the end of the year.

Help!  
We've been  
stuck for hours



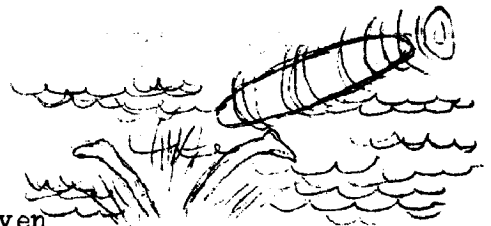
Fires have been prevalent again over the past few weeks and I would like to advise those people responsible that we cannot increase the sawmill outfit without adequate timber from large trees and they are very easily killed by fire, by keeping the fires out we can, look forward to an increase in the amount of growing cypress. KEEP that in mind if you sight a fire. Many people in the don't seem to realize what we do in the bush and if you are one of these people please feel free to call around and we will show you what Forest management is all about.

### An entertaining Evening

I'm sure that all the blokes who attended the 'Singles' evening at Carol Davies flat on the 11th will join me in thanking the girls for the terrific spread they prepared. Quite a few of the dishes were not touched as the blokes were busy watching Andy Cannell and Bob Stuchbury who were engaged in a type of combat not often seen. I don't think a winner was established even though both of them seemed to be wrestling for hours. Liz Wicks was giving me a running commentary as it was evident that she knew something of the game.

### In the Water

The Maningrida Surfing Club had a competition at Juda Point recently which was attended by some of the territory's best surfers. Competition was very keen and one contestant even managed to stand on the board for a short period. Congratulations to Merv Mason who won the open event and also to the runner up Jan Hay. Jan won the Ladies event after indecision by the Judges as to whether Miss O'Lonohue was eligible. The beach girl contest was easily won by Kristie Mason, as none of the other contestants could match her winning combination of beauty and brains.



### Fantastic Softball

The Sportsfield witnessed a fantastic softball game on Sunday when the Men played the Ladies. The men won (of course) due to their fine ball play in which it was apparent they were all well practised; it must be conceded however that the girls were playing with some strange "helpers" including one, "Fire Girl" who seemed to flit off as soon as the men had the upper hand.

### Farewell

to Mrs. Barbara Quick who expects to leave for Alice Springs on Wednesday. Many thanks for your typing contributions to the Mirage Barbara. In Alice S., Mr. Eric "Twick" took up residence this week.

### Welcome

to Mr. and Mrs. Mc Mahon who arrived from Launceston this week and have moved into "Bruce Craven's" house. Mr. McMahon is the new Forestry Mechanic. Mrs. McMahon is a nurse.

*Softball Game at Milingimbi.* On Saturday morning Milingimbi girls played softball against Maningrida girls. Milingimbi went ahead and did not stop, they kept on going. The best players were Jeannie and Lily. They scored home runs. Mr. Stuchbury took some photos. We were cheering for Milingimbi girls. It was a good game. Milingimbi beat Maningrida 16 to 7.

Bob F.

## Arnhem Land Scientific Expedition 1972

On Monday morning three land rovers loaded down with camping gear and a generous coat of dust, drove into the Settlement. They were on their way back to Darwin from Gove. On board were botanists David Limon, Norm Byrne and Bob Fox. They were looking for (and found!) new types of eucalypts, grasses, sedges and water grasses, cycads and palm trees. Les Brigden well known Forest man had been knocking down ant hills and gathering and preserving termites. Two young ladies technical offices were also in the party. They had come as cooks but according to reliable reports they "didn't savy" that bush cooking as well as the men. Two of the botanists made a quick trip to Barney's Jungle while they were here.

### In the air

These days Maningrida has almost as many radio aeriels toweres as trees - Radio Telephone at the shop, 5th Welfare, 5th Forestry, 5th Fisheries and 8th United Church (where a hospital tree serves as an aerial tower).

The newest is the 5th at the mining home where Brian and Val hope to take up residence next week.

This radio will enable the local base to keep in touch with Darwin, and NGARA (the old meat works 10 miles N.E. of Oenpelli) where Kim and Terry are living. There are also 3 mining vehicles equipped with radio for their long trips to and from the Mann River and Junction Bay areas.

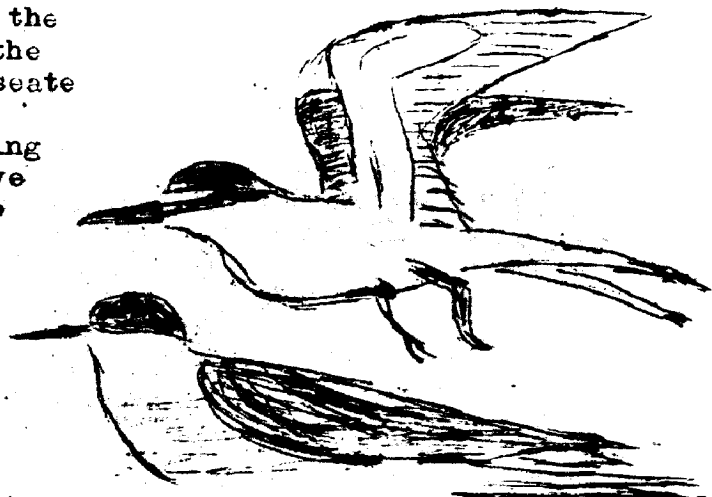
At the Progress Assoc. Meeting recently, Mr. M. Uibo spoke about the possibility of a local broadcast (early in the evening perhaps) when 8 M/N listens could hear local singers, musicians, news, announcements, etc. The idea was quite enthusiastically received and Mick has been asked to look into the matter.

### Tern and Tern About

Haul Round Island, some 13 miles NNW of Maningrida is a sandy cay rising to some 4' above L.W.M., with a rocky outcrop rising to about 12 ft at its NE end. It is a well approved breeding ground for several species of terns and the turtles.

A visit last Wednesday found two species nesting there at the moment; the Roseate Tern and the Bridled Tern. A Turtle's nest was also found. The Roseate Terns were in very strong numbers, and a survey of the nesting grounds suggested that there were about 1300 pairs of birds nesting. A pair usually only has the one egg (or chick) but an occasional pair has two. The adult bird is a picture of perfect architectural balance, beauty and aerobatics. The beautiful pure white of the breast and lower parts is set off by scarlet bill and legs, and a jet black cap on its head. To be among the flocks of thousands of these birds is an experience that cannot be forgotten. Flocks of hundreds of birds are also seen out of the sea, and can be a good marker of fish. They seem to prefer to have their nests (on the ground) sheltered by scrub and the simply constructed nests are built of grass stems. This is the first known breeding record of the bird in the Northern Territory. The second bird, the Bridled Tern, is a much darker bird with a black head and a white line over each eye (giving the appearance of brindle). The birds on the island, in lesser numbers than the Roseate Tern have almost finished breeding as most of the chicks were either flying or close to it. They may of course have another clutch, but as yet there is no evidence of this. Their call is like the yapping of a small dog. They have been reported breeding on the island in 1949 (no Ornithologist having visited the island since). They are also known to breed on the Sir Edward Pellew Group of island.

"Feathers"



Arthur and Pauline Reilly arrived on Monday's plane to spend a week at Maningrida with Jack G. Pauline is a very capable and knowledgeable amateur ornithologist and specialises in research work, in the breeding biology and movements of the Flame Robin and Little Penguin (both Southern birds) and she is the leader in both these fields.

Arthur and Pauline are travelling around Australia and after leaving Darwin will travel through Katherine and down the West Coast of N.T.

# Action for World Development.

I like the emblem of "Action for World Development." It could symbolize a man and a woman acting as equals for world development. It could mean black and white people working together. It might even mean Catholics and Protestants united at last - or Christians and non-Christians working for a common goal.

What is "Action for World Development" working for? They want everyone to have his rights in all countries. These are the rights they list in their booklet "Development is for People".

"Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services; and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age, or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control....."

Everyone has the right to education. Education should be free at least in the elementary and fundamental stages."

Clearly many people in Australia, including Aboriginal people, still do not have all their rights. However, while working towards these goals in Australia, many people also want to help people in underdeveloped countries overseas.

One way to do this is to join "Force Ten". "Force Ten" is run by the Australian Council of Churches' Division of World Christian Action and Australian Catholic Relief. Members promise to give \$2 per month to "Force Ten". Each month they receive a pamphlet informing them about the country and the particular project that their money will be directed to. This is a satisfying form of action for a thinking person. The address is -

Force Ten  
P.O. Box 111,  
Brickfield Hill, NSW. 2000.

A very personal and satisfying way of contributing to world development is by adopting a foster child in a developing country for a year or more. This involves a monthly contribution of \$14.50 which provides education and extra clothing and food, and medical and dental care for your child.

For more information, write to Foster Parents Plan of Australia, 36 Park Street, South Melbourne, Vic. 3205.

One of the simplest methods of action is to join "The Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign". For an annual subscription of \$2.00 you receive information about interesting projects such as the recent developments that have been helping Aboriginal people at Alice Springs. One of the addresses you can write to is -

Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign,  
3rd Floor, Nicholas Building,  
37 Swanston Street,  
Melbourne Vic. 3000.

If you would like to join a study group for "Action for World Development" see me, Rosemary Walters, soon.

Adapted from  
a "AFWD"  
pamphlet

These people  
are not to  
be taken  
for granted.  
They might  
turn out  
to be a  
threat from  
the North

What  
about those  
old braces  
ties of  
yours?

They  
need the  
pill

They  
need  
the true  
faith

They  
need  
fertilizer

Personally  
I prefer  
the blind  
to the  
hungry

They'd make  
a great  
documentary

I've noticed  
most starving  
people tend  
to be  
corrupt

Yes it's  
instinctive  
cunning

The sun shines  
on  
ONE  
GLOBAL  
VILLAGE



# Sports Page.

## School boys Basketball at Milingimbi J Passol.

At 8.30am the boys of Maningrida played basketball against Milingimbi team. The referees were Joe Mawuntjul and myself. The match between the two teams was tight, hard and exciting. In the first quarter Milingimbi team made a good start putting some good baskets to give them lead. The scores in the first half were Milingimbi 14 points Maningrida 12 points. In the second half, in 10 minutes play Maningrida boys made some good baskets to catch up with Milingimbi team and then they were 2 points ahead of 'Gimbi, but somehow in the last 10 minutes the boys couldn't pass the ball to the right person - instead it went back to a Milingimbi boy. Because of this, the court was not bigger than our court and the ring was bending narrowly so the boys found it hard to put the ball into the ring. Milingimbi scored 18 points in the second half and Maningrida scored 10 points which was a close game. The results were Milingimbi 38 points defeated Maningrida 24 points.

Anyway our boys tried their best to win. Not only they were trying, but to give interest to the people of Milingimbi. We all enjoyed ourselves while we were there and received the good respects and hospitality from our friends, relations and neighbours.

The people of Milingimbi reckon T. King and I were the best referees they have ever seen. Maybe because the Milingimbi boys won.

### "A Sad Story"

J.P.

Disaster at the hands of Milingimbi. At least, that is the sporting tale.

Football Friday:	Mil'bi	18 - 14 - 122	d. Man'da	7 - 3 - 45
Basketball Sat:	Mil'bi	38	d. Man'da	24
Football Sat:	Mil'bi	7 - 12 - 54	d. Man'da	3 - 4 - 22

In fact, most enjoyed the games a little more than the scores might indicate. At 3/4 time on Friday Mil. led by 3 goals but while the home team doubled their score in the last 1/4, Man. could not even manage 1 point.

Mil. led by 1 basket with 5 mins to go in the morning basketball game. A repeat of Friday's strong finish gave them a good win. Trevor scored 9 goals for Mil. and Richard 4 for Maningrida.

Saturday's football was much better from Maningrida, with Ted and Richard taking some excellent marks in defence. Milingimbi played good tough football - congratulations to them and especially their aboriginal coach Joe.

Best players for Maningrida were Richard, George, Dean, Ted and Rexie. For Milingimbi I would say Trevor, David and the Mighty Midget Charlie. Thanks to the Milingimbi boys and people for such a good stay. SPECIAL THANKS: To the people of Maningrida who made accommodation, food and other arrangements possible here. The kids thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

T.K.

Maningrida Girls play Milingimbi Girls  
Volleyball Game

single

On Friday the Milingimbi girls arrived. They were good players. They played volley-ball. First, Maningrida girls went ahead, then Milingimbi girls caught up. Maningrida girls were beaten then the game was over. The Milingimbi girls went shopping and came back to change into their basketball clothes for other games.

Basketball Game.

single

On Friday night lots of people watched the basketball game. We cheered for Maningrida girls. Betty played well and Negro. \*\* Dorothy from the other team played well too. Milingimbi were winning but Maningrida girls caught up and won 24 to 21.

\*\* For the uninitiated to 'play Negro' is a term of praise applied to basketballers who use tricky dribbles, passing shots and goal shots, etc. (Ed.)

**Maningrida Mirage**

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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