



- 3 AUG 1972

MANINGRIDA MIRAGE

Vol. 145



Friday 14th July 1972.

In and Around the School.

.... Arriving almost simultaneously with the politicians on Tuesday was the Queensland Opera Company. They gave the children one of the best performances we have seen at Maningrida. The small opera they sang was "The Jolly Swaggy", a modified Waltzing Matilda. The children enjoyed it a lot and joined in enthusiastically on the bird calls, sheep noises and other sound effects. Some splendid acting from Ronnie Baramala who played the jumbuk. Our thanks to the Opera Company for an enjoyable show.

.... If you ever wonder what the energetic game in the school yard is that has people going everywhere, a tennis ball, and 3 soft drink tins, you are looking at the famous "Three Tin." The rules are simple - three tins are stacked atop each other - they are then knocked over and one team has to re-erect them while the other tries to tag them with the ball. The game swept the school in 1970 after being introduced from Milingimbi. Now the champions seem to be the Gunavidji and Gunwinggu children. Some children in Dennis Strand's class in 1970 held a marathon game occupying most of the daylight in a weekend. Molly, our Clinic Nursing Aide, assures us that "Burada people had that game first - the rest are copy cat!"

.... I would like to remind some residents of Maningrida about not being unlawfully on school premises.

When school is closed you are not allowed to be in the school grounds without a very good reason such as attending a meeting, homework class, or pictures. Perhaps you may be there to talk with a teacher.

People are not allowed to use the school grounds to walk, ride bicycles or motorbikes or motor cars between the shop and the village or other places.

The school area, from pre-school to home management buildings is being watched (particularly at night) by the police, headmaster and deputy headmaster.

Should any boy, girl, man or woman, be found at school (especially at night) without good reason, doing bad things, strong action will be taken against them.

Worrying for hi-jackers

Professor

As all newspaper readers know, airline pilots in many parts of the world are very worried about hi-jackers. They reckon that the air line companies are not doing enough to check passengers for hidden guns, bombs, etc.

That may be so in other places - but not with our local airline!!

At mid-day a bearded man (Chris Burchett) was boarding the plane with a gun hidden in a wrapping. The pilot stopped him at the door of the plane - made him take the gun out of the wrapping - pull back the bolt - and looked carefully for any ammunition. While the check was in progress a fairly rotund and prominent citizen (J.H.) called out (from the airport fence) "Take me to Oenpelli."

Elcho

News and Views

have kindly duplicated this week's issue. By next week we hope to have our own Gestetner.

Extracts from the Minutes of
Three Village Council Meetings. 24/6/72, 3/7/72,
10/7/72. 2

GADJI: A visitor from Nangalala addressed the Council. He said that Milingimbi people were trying to start off at Nangalala but people from Maningrida were not helping. There were plenty of natural resources there, timber, bauxite. A lot of white men were looking at the country; there were a lot of secret places and these had to be properly safeguarded. No-one was allowed to dig these and people had to come to help protect them.

President said that people had been talking about this for more than three years but hadn't moved yet. They had the chance to go but he hadn't pushed them. They stayed at Maningrida.

Cr. Riala - the conference at Elcho Island commented that it was very sad that no-one was there. Roy Raywala couldn't work on his own. They need an aboriginal school-teacher there. They can't get any Europeans until they make a start.

LAWYER: Cr. Riala said that now there was a court house it would be right to get a lawyer as well to talk for the aborigines.

TOURS: Cr. Riala suggested that some Councillors should go on a tour of southern cities to see how balandas lived in their own areas.

NATIONAL ABORIGINES DAY: D. Gillespie asked Council what would be an appropriate way of celebrating National Aborigines' Day. He suggested a school Open Day and some dancing.

HOUSES: The Superintendent asked Councillors what they were thinking about housing for the people. He showed them a new idea for housing which had been developed by listening to the ideas of a number of people. He wanted to know if it was a satisfactory idea.

EISTEDD-POD: Cr. Yiriyin nominated Messrs. Frank Namanamana and Crusoe Guningbal (bamboo man Joe Guwanga).

President suggested that tribes join together for dancing.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Nominations - Peter Bunjuljul | Dick Gabalk |
| Paddy Fordham | F. Minjilawiri |
| D. Gulpulil | A. Margiana |
| T. Malagaliya | D. Irindili |

Total - 10 men.

T. Yibberal was nominated as the organiser of the party.

D. Gillespie said that the expenses would be over \$700. Aboriginal Theatre Foundation had offered \$350., a generous sum. It was up to Maningrida to raise the rest. This would be attempted by running a fishing competition next Saturday.

BURIALS: Cr. Munyal outlined the need to provide coffins for burials. This started a discussion on the removal of bones. There were two lines of thought; one group felt that the custom was not one which should be perpetuated, mainly because (a) aborigines were accepting new customs, and (b) Maningrida was everybody's country, they lived and died here, and the bones shouldn't be taken away.

Others felt that the custom had to be followed until the people threw it away themselves.

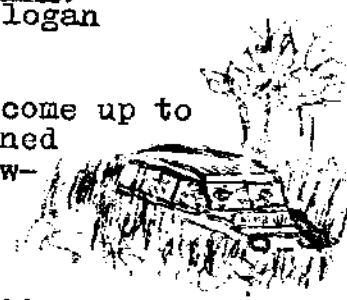
BAMBOO CREEK: Cr. Gungul asked for wire for the fishtrap at Gabaljara Ck. He had been at Maningrida long enough.

FISHTRAP: Cr. Warijal asked for wire for the fishtrap at Gabaljara Ck.

News of the Maningrida Monster has reached Sydney -----
According to the Sydney Morning Herald on 6/7/72 in Column 8,
a daily feature on the front page, mention was made of Mannie,
the Maningrida Monster - an antipodean brother for Nessie, the
Loch Ness Monster - bearing witness to our editorial slogan
"Today the Maningrida Mirage, tomorrow the world."

Banyili Sidetracked

The Banyili dancing/sporting team are unable to come up to
Maningrida on the Picnic Day long weekend as they planned
to do. The Yuendumu Sports unfortunately clashes. How-
ever we are still trying to arrange a later date with
maybe some visitors from nearby missions as well.



Politicians on the Move.

On Tuesday a party of A.L.P. men visited Maningrida. They
were Senator Geoff McLaren (S.A.), Senator Arthur Gietzelt (N.S.W.)
Ted Robertson the A.L.P.'s candidate for the N.T. seat, and Peter
Denholm, N.T. Campaign Manager. They spoke briefly to teaching
staff and had a quick tour around the place. They are off to
Gove and Groote on an enrolment drive. The Senators displayed
confidence in their electoral prospects. Senator Gietzelt ob-
served that the Territory is at present represented by one man
in the Government and, after the elections, if Mr. Robertson is
not elected, it will be represented by one man in the Opposition.

Stealing at Oenpelli.

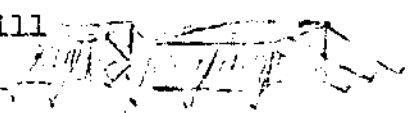
Two men stole some food from the store at
Oenpelli. They were caught and the police
came along. Then the men were taken to court
in Darwin. They had to pay \$20. Their names
were Mugudug and Liawanga Naloriman.



National Aborigines Day.

Today (or maybe yesterday) is National Aborigines Day.
Every year on this day Aboriginal people and balanda people who
are interested in Aboriginal problems, come together to show how
they feel about things and to show that they are proud to be
Aboriginal.

In Canberra some Aboriginal people are still
camping on the road outside the big Government
building. They are asking for land for Aborig-
inal people.



In Darwin a big march will be held in the
streets by Aboriginal people and there will be
shows and displays at night.

Kormildapeople are going to show their work in Woolworths
store and also go to talk to balanda children at the schools to
help them understand more about Aboriginal customs.

A ceremony will be held in Darwin to remember the Larrakia
tribe. Darwin used to be their country. Now they have all gone.

All over the country Aboriginal people will be doing things.
Here at Maningrida we are having our school Open Day.

Post Office.

As from Monday July 17th all outgoing mail bags will be
closed and sealed at 10.30am sharp.

Co-operation is also requested in the matter of mail
arrivals.

It takes approximately 30 minutes from the plane's arrival
for the mail to be delivered to the Post Office and sorted.

Please refrain from asking to purchase stamps or place
phone calls during sorting.

All letters should be posted at Post Box and not at Post
Office counter.

Dental Appointments.

*See the dentist at the first opportunity.
Make an appointment and save waiting time.*

With Sister Sandra in Alice Springs.

The Institute for Aboriginal Development

The Institute, situated in Alice Springs, is an autonomous body controlled by a board of local European and Aboriginal People. The present work covers two main areas, Communication and Child Care.

There is a Language Laboratory where courses are conducted in two main Aboriginal languages and in English.

I am involved in the Mother Training Child Care Section and conduct courses with groups from surrounding settlements, missions and stations. Although the course is directed at improving Child Care the whole Aboriginal community is involved. I hope to help the people see that through their own social structure they can influence the changing environment to meet their present needs. (Contrary to popular opinion I do not teach the women to cook good stews).

An initial approach is made to men of a group and the objects of the course are explained to them in their own language. When discussion is ended it is left to the group to decide for themselves whether or not the course would be beneficial for them as a group. Having made this initial decision, the matter of who is to attend is also left to the people. For teaching purposes we restrict numbers to 6-8 mothers with their youngest children and 3-4 grandmothers or fathers. I visit the community to establish a personal contact and observe the facilities available to them in their home environment.

Preparation over, the group comes to the institute for 3 weeks. We have a bus for transport.

The people sleep in two large rooms on mattresses on the floor, with no other furnishings apart from hooks and shelves on the walls. Cooking is done on a campfire using simple equipment such as billycans. We want their experience at the Institute to relate as closely as possible to their home environment. The dishes etc. used are given to the people but they are asked to pay \$5 a week per adult for food which is provided from our store. If this cannot be afforded the people bring artifacts for the Institute to sell.

Teaching is done around the campfires in the private courtyard. Subjects include nutrition, germs/hygiene, family planning and budgeting. A non-authoritarian approach is adopted and the traditional knowledge and concepts used as a base for teaching. The lessons learnt and the stories told are all drawn on prepared papers by the mothers, and these are put in a folder for them to show to others on their return home.

It is aimed to have all teaching in the vernacular, but until my Pitjantjatjara improves I frequently have the assistance of an interpreter.

I am trying to create a concept of health and because the people associate Sisters with sickness we have separated the roles of health educator and nurse. A sister comes each morning to conduct a clinic.

The teaching is reinforced in the camp at intervals after the group returns home.

Ten courses have been conducted over the past year and results have varied. In one area the people have talked about the stories but there has been no observable change in behaviour. In another the children of 2 women who attended have shown a marked improvement in health. In yet another area, because the women who returned reorganised such things as rubbish disposal and started a market garden, the whole community has benefited.

The work is challenging and I am enjoying it very much. I have been able to apply much knowledge gained from the people at Maningrida to the situations here, and I was fortunate to be able to learn from Miss Doreen Lawson who was the Institute's first Health Educator. When she left to return to Arnhem land it was 'our' loss but 'your' gain.

S.S.

FISHING COMPETITION



Intending competitors are reminded that there is no section in the Fishing Competition for Monsters - so put it back if you hook onto it. Its the only one we've got.

EXCHANGE OF NEWS

There are some readers in Milingimbi who would like to subscribe to the Mirage. In the "BARU DHAKAL DHAWUMIRRI" editor, Mr Jim McManus (teacher, and well known inter-school sports member) is getting a really good roundup of town news. Any Maningridian who would like to receive the "BARU" (5 ¢ copy) please see one of the Mirage editors.

GRAND FINAL

KUPANGA 36 defeated M.P.A. 35

The first five minutes saw some easy goals missed by both teams - perhaps nerves. Then came goal after goal with both teams keeping level. Near the end of the first half, Lucky landed 2 free shots to give Kupanga a lead of 16 to 10. Larry Weipa put in 4 goals. M.P.A. missed Tim Darcy, top goal scorer for the season, who had 4 fouls after 15 minutes of play. He rested until the second half

Early in the second half Kupanga raced away to a 28 to 24 lead. Then came the thrilling M.P.A. comeback. With about seven minutes to go it was Kupanga 30 - 28. Then level, then Kupanga, level, M.P.A., level. Everyone was cheering. Tim Darcy put in one of his free shots. Finally George Putti calmly landed the goal for a one point win to Kupanga. Michael Stewart was very strong for Kupanga with 3 goals in the second half. Congratulations Kupanga and well done M.P.A. - their first competition.

| | | | |
|--------|--------------------------|----|------------------|
| GOALS: | Tim Darcy (M.P.A.) | 13 | (+ 1 free shot) |
| | Larry Weipa (K) | 7 | |
| | George Putti(K) | 4 | |
| | Michael Stewart(K) | 3 | |
| | Charlie Godjuwa (M.P.A.) | 3 | |
| | Lucky Balaka (K) | 2 | (+ 2 free shots) |
| | Alan (K) | 1 | |
| | Morris (M.P.A.) | 1 | |

Special thanks to Jimmy Pascoe and Jacky Pascoe who umpired extremely well

T.K.

GRIDIANS

Gees Gees meeting next Wednesday at the Resource Centre at 7.30 pm.

Kay & Margaret

LETTER TO EDITOR

The Editor,

Dear Sir,

I am in "the dark" as to how, when, and to whom I pay my picture money to ! (I DON'T THINK I'M SMART!).

This raises the whole question of "time gentleman, please" for newcomers to Maningrida. I spent many hours during my first three weeks here tramping around on foot only to find places closed when I thought they would be open. Could signs be provided for all business places instead of going back through past copies of "The Mirage" or going to see if particular places were open. I have written down some times like the Hospital, P.O., etc., but it would be a good idea if roneed copies of times for everything be given to newcomers as they arrive; also fees etc.

What about subscription fees to the "Mirage" ? I think it is \$1.00 per year; I'm not sure; nobody told me.

yours faithfully,
"C.C."

(ED. Picture Money is collected at the gate on Pay nights only; on the other nights there is no collection.

Subscription notices, receipts, donations etc have been held up over the last few weeks because the Tres. has been on leave)

WEEKEND DUTIES


Duty Officer: Mr Brolga
Duty Sister: Sister Helen
Firewatch: Sat. Mr Geoff Green
Sun. Mr. R. Scott

STAR THEATRE

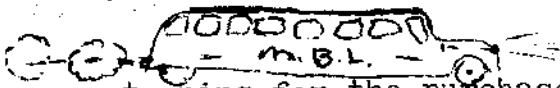
Because of the early closing time of material for inclusion in "The Mirage" we are not able to tell you.

CHURCH

Sunday: 9.30 am Sunday Schools
7.15 pm Evening Service & Holy Communion
Tuesday: 7.30 pm Crusaders fellowship & Choir

 On Tuesday of next week, authoress Mrs Maisie MacKenzie of Alice Springs arrives to collect material on a book on the 50 years history of the Church in Northern Arnhemland. There are older men living at Goulburn Island who can remember the arrival of the Pioneer Missionary Mr James Watson in 1917. Mrs MacKenzie wrote "The Road to Mowanjum", a book on the people living near Derby W.A. a few years ago.

BUS BUSINESS

 The wheels are now turning for the purchase of the Maningrida Bus. A 40 seater Bedford of "LaTrobe Valley Bus Lines" (Vic) is being seriously looked at, and its purchase will depend on an R.A.C.V. and Road Transport Report.

BIRTHS

Doreen to Betty Mirilwanga and George Namairabil on Tuesday.

Carlos to Janice Garadamunui on Saturday

Janeen to Mabel Wundungura and Horace Dedja on Friday

Adrian to Ruby Bilidja and Wally Mundurrug on the 18th June at the Cadell River Crossing.

PEOPLE

Chris and Gwen Burchett left our shores on Tuesday after a nine-month stay with us, and we were all sorry to see them go. Chris became an essential part of the establishment, and was always ready to try his hand at everything - and anything. His bearded face was best known behind a pile of Social Service cheques, or a pile of rations on their way out bush. We will miss both of them, as we know they will miss Maningrida in the bleak cold winds of Sydney. Good luck mates, and please come home soon.

At Juda Point senior citizens John Godawa, Jimmy Borborg and Polly are enjoying the country life. John Sr's only regret is that his back is a bit troublesome and would like "that red light to roast it."

Charlie Gunbuna returned from Darwin Hospital yesterday.

The Oepelli people evidently entertained our Morning Star dancers very well. Some returned last Thursday, others lingered a little longer at the Border Store.

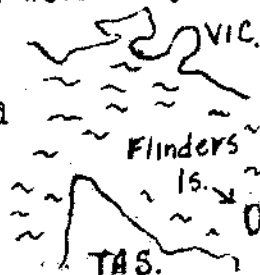
Some Elcho Island people have arrived for ceremonies associated with the death of the late Robert W.

Mr Glen Bagshaw went off to Adelaide on a business trip on Wednesday. He may even see some of the 3rd Test on T.V.

A Paper like the Mirage.

Clive and Lee McMahon have passed on a copy of the "Island News" - the newspaper from Flinders Island. Flinders Island is near Tasmania and has 1000 people living on it. It is 50 miles long and 20 miles across. Clive used to work on the motors of the fishing boats and the machinery from the sheep and cattle farms. It must be a good place. Clive and Lee intended to work there for 2 years but stayed for 12½.

The island has its own museum. The "Island News" has 8 pages of news, and 12 pages of advertisements.



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