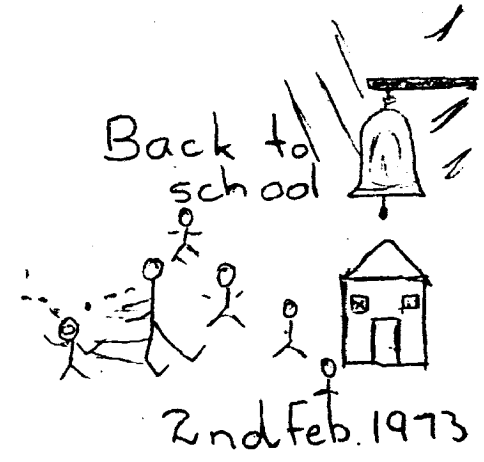


# Maningrida Mirage



Volume: 171

## Notice:

Volunteers are required for a mosquito control and research project to be carried out by the A.F.A.I.O. Those who are able to participate would be required to keep a record of the number of mosquito bites received, time of attack and if possible temperature and humidity at time of attack. (Please note that every care should be taken to distinguish between sandfly and mosquito bites)

Findings will be correlated on a monthly basis and a report will be issued quarterly.

Information is particularly requested from the area East of the Liverpool River (Maningrida-Cadell area).



Please prepare all reports from the week beginning 3rd. February, 1973.

Public cooperation in this project is most earnestly sought and weekly reports should be returned via the Forestry Dept. Maningrida, NT.

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## Welcome:

Welcome to all the new teachers and welcome back to the old hands. We will bring you a more detailed story on the new teachers next week if we can find a kind person to write a long story for us.

///-///

## Hours of Business:

The Clinic is open on  
Weekdays 7a.m. - 4p.m.  
Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. 2.30 p.m. - 3.30p.m.  
The Health Centre is closed for morning coffee breaks and meal times from 10a.m. - 10.30a.m. and 12midday - 1p.m.  
The Health Centre is open for sick patients only during the weekends, as only one sister is on duty then.

(This notice will be of particular interest to newcomers - ed)

Emergencies are seen at the Health Centre from 7.30.a.m. - 3.30p.m. on weekends. At other times, see the sister - on - call at her residence. (See the Duty Roster on the door of the Welfare office.)

For consultations and enquiries see the sisters during working hours. The Centre is usually very busy between 8a.m. - 9.30a.m. on weekdays and during this time everyone must wait their turn. For emergency cases which need doctor's consultation call early as the Radio Medical times are 8.30a.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 enable us to give a clear picture to the doctor, so that he will be able to make a diagnosis and order treatment.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sister Maija

The Animal spirit Aborigines and human birds men.

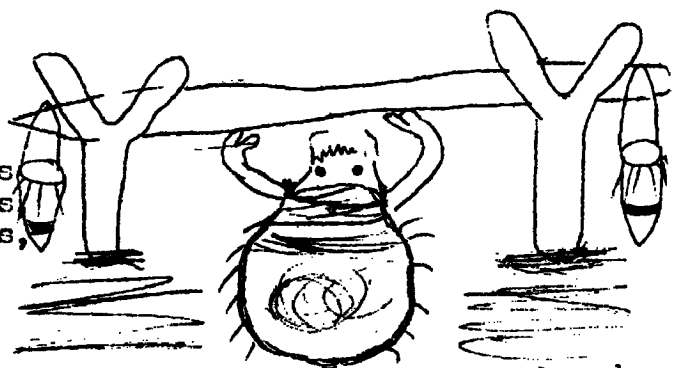
Devil ghosts (mirri) and living crabs and nature flying creatures and ~~snakes~~ snakes, this is where I am always talking about and not doing things. Let the dark men follow my lives and not to be satisfy in the scrubs countries of the dreaming lands. For what my black body wants is opposed to what the spirits want, is ~~opposed~~ opposed to what the shadow wants, is opposed to what the tales want.

Jiridja and Dua people, the two are black enemies. what this means is that we cannot do what we like to do. That if an experienced fellow leads us, then we are no to forget the subject names to the tribal laws and landrights.

What do Aboriginal creatures story real explain? We cannot do anything about it, it makes my mind hard, I believe the fingerforktrees and the clever man'd handcraft. When there is an initiation ceremony going on, to make boys young men, some relations cry and get angry; another time we fight over a woman, are jealouse, angry, stealing goods, hating each other and so on.

We separate into two moieties and sixteen skingroups, eight for Jiridja and eight for Dua. This, with clans, ancestors and families with insect & dreamings, were true Aborigines. We did not have drunks, we had waters, but had fights to and could sing people to death. You better warn us now for sickness and stop us having victoms and taking others blood.

The one who sang to death should now work as electrician; the one who took blood should now become a doctor, and the one who killed with a hollow log should become a mechanic. We fight like scorpions, men and women sing love chants (djarada) about wildlife, about marriages sandflies, mosquitoes, butterflies, worms, totems, clouds, rains, stone moieties, trees, relations, tortoises, crocodiles, geanna's, frogs, animal groups.



All these songs about wildlife were made by Djanguwu people, the mud crab people, who have been already put to death when they ate the crabs. They made our sacred objects and rituals and gave it with pleasure to the Aboriginal people. We then must believe that this is our life and we should not do the wrong things.

Jack Mirritji.



Bob Stutchbury has written to tell us of some surgery he has had on his trouble maker shoulder. The mares at the sales were too dear this year so he didn't buy one. However the mare he bought last year is with child.

Liz Wicks has written to say that she has been unable to take the city life and she is heading back to the Territory to take up teaching again.

Dr Betty Watts and others were at Maningrida on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday to talk to local people about the use of Aboriginal languages in school.

Mrs. Heather Cross is in Daylesford at her parents house awaiting the birth of a second heir to the Cross millions.

Helen Gorila has been working this week on a gheckout at the store, and very well to.

Welcome to Noel and Shirley Soutter our new Connair people. Here is a notice from Noel.

CONNAIR PTY.LTD. MANINGRIDA . OFFICE HOURS.

Monday to Friday 8a.m. to 12p.m. and 1p.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday: 9am to 12 p.m.

Sunday: closed..

All passengers and freight must be checked in at the office (in the old miners house) or airstrip at least 15min. before departure time. Timetables for Connair Ansett, T.A.A. and Quntas are available at the office.

## A Short Story:

The child stood near the great heavy river looking across it. Behind him the cold red sun blooded the shadowed Mangroves on the far bank. The heavy dust had covered the clearing where he stood, leaving his footprints darkened by the coming of night. The river wind cooled his body and ruffled the shorts too large for his sturdy six years.

Twenty yards ahead of him he could see the woman. 'Mad Mary' they called her. She had chased him often, screaming and cursing. Every child in the school was scared of her.

She was mad he knew, and knowing, feared her more than anything, shadows- ghosts - - night--and beyond his understanding.

She stood looking into the water, murmuring.

He knew she was sad.

The grey mud of the Mangroves swirled in the high tide. High and undercut, the bank stood out over the fast moving water. He walked up behind her, the soft warm dust stroking his feet and scattered by his thongs. He stood quietly behind her black clad figure. His arms came up and very gently pushed her.

He expected her to fall with a great splash, but she seemed to float out into the air, slowly very slowly turning in small sweeping circles and dropping very gently into the water.

He could see her eyes laughing at him as the water closed over her head, he heard a loud cry in his ears. Startled he turned and found it was his own.

Slowly she came up from the bottom of the river, hair slimed close to her cheeks, her brown eyes looking at him, pleading. Grey mud poured from her nose and mouth. Frantically she threw her arms about trying to swim, her mouth opening and shutting.

The boy knelt on the bank watching her intently. She managed to come nearer to him. "Please" he begged earnestly "Please die" Softly the water swallowed up her body, dragging it down until only her face was visible just beneath the rippling surface. He could not see her eyes.

"Please Miss, are you dead? he begged.

No answer came.

The crows made a great noise in the tall trees beside the track. The boy trudged on, the setting sun now too weak to cast his shadow in the dust, until he came to the fence. Ducking under, he ran to the back of a house.

Hammering on the door he shouted "Mum Mum"

The light flooded from the opening door.

"Mum" he said, "Can I go to the pictures?"

ANON.

FROM OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT: (Forestry Division)

The Murganella 'Gut and Biscuit Ensemble' regrets that its annual 'Festival of Song and Dance' has had to be cancelled owing to the severe water shortage.

L'mort de l'canard, to be danced by Messrs. Delaney and Brotherton, will still be the main attraction when the festival is held.

///-///

Last week the Gestetner machine ate the stencil for the last page of the Mirage. That's why you didn't see the names of the films or the Duty people.

Barge watchers - barge due p.m. today, weather permitting

## THE STORE.



Help us to help you, There has been too much rubbish both within and around the store and bakery, We have supplied bins for your rubbish. Please use them.

We will not hesitate to refuse service to anyone making a mess.

SPOCK. Regretably due to some poor buying some shortages have temporarily occurred, these should all be overcome by late this week.

MILK. Again due to indiscreet buying, milk, which has a life of 5 days, has often been in stock longer, all doubtful stock has been discarded, in future you will buy milk with the assurance of quality.

Customers are requested to use the correct entrance, that is through the revolving gate, also to refrain from entering the bulk store without invitation.

We intend to operate a First Class Store for your benefit, should you require any product that is not stocked please place your request with the Manager or should you have any complaints please see MR.G.Bagshaw.

from G.B.

///-///

## Weather Story:

Fourteen people were in Albert Wurrdjial's boat coming from Goulburn Island to Maningrida. They were lost and many people were worried for them. The sea was very rough and a strong wind was blowing. Some of the planes that were in the area were looking for them. They were found by a Neptune aeroplane from the R.A.A.F. which spotted them at Cuthbert Point, around past Rolling Bay. On Thursday Charlie Mulumbuk went out in a boat to pick them up but the sea at Rolling Bay was too rough and he came back. Fisheries are getting their bigger boat ready to go out. In the newspaper it said that the people did not signal to the plane that they were in trouble and everything seemed O.K.

There have been cyclones to the East and cyclones to the West and in the middle we have been getting some hard winds. On Tuesday the little barge "Keats" came in after a hard ride. Top wind speeds were 33 knots on Wednesday and 28 knots on Thursday. Many junior beachcombers took the chance to try the Maningrida surf.

<u>Weather:</u>	<u>Temperature</u>	<u>Rainfall</u>
Friday	26.0	34
Saturday	27.0	2
Sunday	27.5	3
Monday	26.0	15
Tuesday	26.0	3
Wednesday	28.5	54
Thursday	27.0	11.

(9 o'clock readings)

Short of space  
Duty officer: Bert Ryan  
Duty Sister: Sr Betty  
Movies: Fri: Gunpoint  
Sat: Double Man.

Spare a thought for Milingimbi! After having their airstrip out of action for quite a while they got it opened again and waited for the plane carrying all the goodies that they had done without. Alas the plane got sick in Darwin and they must wait for another day.

Mark Traughear a male nurse has arrived to fill in for Sister Cec when she goes on holidays next Thursday. Welcome Mark and we hope you enjoy your stay. Sister Cec tells us that Eddy is working very hard building carpports and the like.

Trevor and Helen King are in Melbourne now and ready for work. At least Trevor is. Helen's baby is due in March. They have a new Torana-more status symbols.

**Maningrida Mirage**

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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