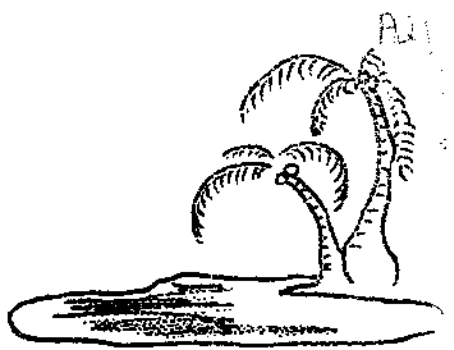


A. J. A.  
LIBRARY

# MANINGRIDA

# MIRAGE



VOLUME XVII, January 16th, 1970.

## ON THE ROAD TO MANDALAY....

Sister Maija came home on Wednesday after an interesting interlude in Asia.

Singapore must be a hygiene man's dream - especially a Maningrida hygiene man - who has to deal with blockages in the sewerage pipes every few days. There everything runs in open gutters! Of course there is " the smell ", but there are no flies or mosquitoes, and apparently no great diarrhea problems.

At this time of the year Singapore enjoys a wet winter - raining every day but a pleasant 80 degrees warmth.

It seems that Singapore is a bit like Alice Springs - local people know how and where to buy goods at much more reasonable prices than in the shops where high charges are made to tourists. Maija said that once she and some local friends boarded a taxi and were speaking in Finnish. The taxi driver, thinking they were new chums, pressed a button that made the meter jump by 40 cents. The man in the party noted this little trick and when he spoke about reporting the driver ( he would be in danger of losing his licence ) the taxi man was pleased to do the right thing ! The moral of episodes such as this is - when you go to Singapore stay with someone who knows the place ! Dave Fryer may have an interesting word or two to say on this subject!

In a poor Chinese area Maija saw "Death " Street. Here there are two rows of boxes along the street, one above the other. When a Chinese man feels that his days are done he climbs into one of these and there "he finishes ". He is taken upstairs for the funeral. Not exactly the type of custom to spread in Australia !

In the home of a Chinese-Malay couple, there was the incredible sight of a 5 year old child doing Chinese lettering in a delightfully neat manner. " And there were pages of it ". The standards of Education are very high.

In contrast to Malaysia, where Silas Roberts had the experience of seeing beggars, Singapore has none. People in need are promptly given some care by Welfare authorities. Some of the old areas are giving way to huge flats - in one place a notice said that ~~the~~ flats 50 stories high would be built there.

Prior to going north, Maija spent some time in Mt. Isa. Five hundred Finns live there.

\*\*\*\*\*

A WEIGHTY MATTER.

Some of the Sisters have observed that several school children have become thinner during the holidays, and doubt whether they have been taking the opportunity to eat properly. Who can give a reason for this? One who has not been losing weight is Ed Carey. Now that Cac has gone on holidays he is planning a careful diet calculated to lighten the figure by perhaps a stone. No potatoes or bread and plenty of grills!

\*\*\*\*\*

THE ARAFURA "C".

We have available now very good stocks of most lines. Plenty of Sugar, Flour, Tea, Tobacco, Fish, Camp Pie, Oats, Powdered Milk, Soap, Soap Powder, Cigarettes, Oranges, Bananas, Flavoured Milk, Steak, Eggs, Chickens.

Blankets, Mattresses, Sheets, Pillows, Mosquito Nets.

FLY SPRAY PUMPS - \$1.00.

This weeks specials - TOUGH WORK SHIRTS AT ONLY \$1.50 - at this price they must walk out.

NESCO ICE CREAM MIX - 40cents a large can.

Winchester best quality shot GUNS - \$50.00.

REMPS best quality 12 feet - \$50.00.

Darwin Bread - 55 cents.

Maningrida Bread - 40 cents.

\*\*\*\*\*

ELECTION NEWS.

Village Councillors elected so far are :

GANARDBA ... Rain yesterday, humbug for us.

JINANG ... Ray Mnyal, Jack Miritja, Jimmy Burnysala.

NAKARA ... Willy Jolppa, Toby Malagalija, Tommy Imbaral.

Gunavidji, Reabaranga, Gunwinggu and Burada still to meet and elect their 5 representatives.

\*\*\*\*\*

YOUNG MEN IN THE MAKING.

Jacky Banambaralik ( a Milingimbi man ) son Timothy is now being prepared by Caruso ( Gunwinggu ) for his initiation up near Ray Mnyal's house with singing and dancing every night.

Dean ( son of a Ganardba man now dead, and Gunavidji mother ) is in the care of a guardian -Paddy Milairing. The Ganardba dancers led by Johnny Jirr-ka-wala do their part each night.

It could be that the initiation ceremonies will end on this pay-day week-end.



## THE FIRST FILMSTAR.

Several films have been made at Maningrida, e.g. by Lewis Allenborough in 1962, an American group largely featuring Gunwinget people in 1964, and Nic Peterson from time to time. However David Galpallil is the first Maningrida Aboriginal to star in a film with European actors.

The action begins with an English boy and girl lost in waterless country in King Canyon near Hermannsburg. When hope has almost gone the boy sees an Aboriginal lad chasing a goanna in the distance. This turns out to be David. The three of them strike up a friendship. David shows them how to find food and water and teaches them some Aboriginal customs. They try to learn his language and teach him English and later on show him European life in the towns.

In Glen Helen Gorge David catches a kangaroo and then makes a fire to cook it. At the Glen Helen homestead he got a bit of trouble from the lady of the house - " Eh boy, where are you going " ?

The action moves to Roper River and a visit to the "Lost City", to Tenant Creek.

On the Stuart Highway there was a road accident. The driver had to weave to miss a drunken driver and the film vehicle rolled over. Dick Bandialil (the other Maningrida boy ) jumped to safety, but David was "dead" in Darwin Hospital for an hour or so.

Filming of a buffalo hunt at Point

Stuart was a dramatic incident. David

had to jump off a Toyota on to the neck of a running beast, grab his horns and twist them so that he fell to the ground - and then into the



neck with a stone axe. While here there was some dancing in an old grave yard with lots of bones from Aborigines about (really buffalo bones)

Should the dialogue of the film and all the script be lost it wouldn't greatly matter because David seems to remember every line!

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE MILINGIMBI SCOUTS.

The troop was formed 5 years ago, and while there have been a couple of weekend camps this is the first trip that the boys have made away. (excepting the visit of 5 boys and Scout Master to the opening of Maningrida Scout Hall.)

Events in the camp programme thus far have been a swim at Tomkinson's

Hole, a look over the country from a fire tower, a picnic at Judah

Point, as well as various scouting exercises, cooking and washing dishes

( how they love this ! ). In the observation walk to the old jetty one

patrol listed 100 items seen ranging from lizard tracks and snakes track

to fish bones, birds noise, wild potato flower and a red apple tree.

Scout Master Ray Bell has noted that some Maningrida scouts have up to

4 showers a day !

It is likely that the boys will return to Milingimbi on the "River Song" on Monday.

\*\*\*\*\*

SHOWING AT THE THEATRE.

FRIDAY : Films had not  
SATURDAY : arrived by Thurs. p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

CHURCH SERVICES.

SUNDAY : 9.30 am All age Sunday School, "Called to serve".  
7.30 pm Evening Service - Preacher Mr. Bob  
Cross . Film

\*\*\*\*\*

DUTY OFFICER : ?  
DUTY SISTER ( WEEKEND ) : Sister Eng.

People are reminded that the Hospital hours are 7am to 4pm.  
\*\*\*\*\*

COMINGS AND GOINGS.

It all happened within three hours. April appeared behind the counter in the office again, Edna, who had done the "morning skeds ", was officer in charge of Home Management, and Gill was boarding the afternoon plane on holidays.

Forty three babies arrived in Maningrida during the past calendar

year : 25 in the first 6 months  
18 in the second 6 months  
43

Thirteen souls departed - 6 in the first 6 months  
7 in the second 6 months  
plus 1 in Darwin

14

\*\*\*\*\*

HOSPITAL PATIENTS.

ELIZABETH WARANGAUBA is booked home next Friday. JOCKY BUNDA BUNDA could be out in another week, also MELVA. JUDY LAMARNGA and ELIZABETH WALAINMAN are doing alright. DAVID YARRDUAG, DAISY and GLORIA are O.K. NANCY and LURICK FORDHAM didn't get home this week but are at Bagot Hospital.

\*\*\*\*\*

RAINFALL.

Mrs. Q. Emiss reports a 9.00am Thursday rainfall recording of 45 points.

\*\*\*\*\*

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We are sorry to advise our readers that due to lack of staff, namely our Editor's absence, there is not expected to be a MIRAGE issued for the next two weeks.

\*\*\*\*\*

Search and Destroy Mission.

A King Brown Snake was seen slithering dangerously nearby by Eric Jensen. He went into battle armed with a tomahawk, along came Trevor with a fish spear which broke (its really for sea snakes) and then Dan smote it with conduit. 'Twas 5' 10" long.

**Maningrida Mirage**

AIATSIS Library, RS 29.7/2

"Maningrida Mirage Volume 17" January 16th, 1970.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

(r000005900888\_v17\_a.pdf)

To cite this file use:

[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig\\_prgm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/69-70/r000005900888\\_v17\\_a.pdf](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig_prgm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/69-70/r000005900888_v17_a.pdf)

© Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community