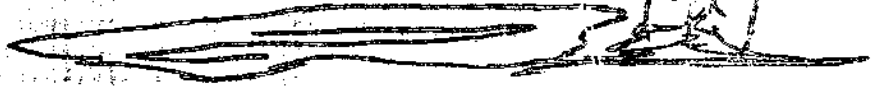


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MANINGRIDA.

MIRAGE.



VOLUME XXI February 27th 1970.

INSIDE MOSCOW - IN WINTER

Mr John and Mrs Jay Phenister spent three days in Moscow on their way from London recently.

It was in the middle of a Russian winter with snow 5' deep in places. The temperature was down to 10° below zero, and it does go 50° below. Brrrr. And some Maningrida boys think that Victoria is cold in December!?

How does life in Moscow compare with Maningrida? The Russians solve their housing problems by building huge flats $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long and 18 stories high and these accomodate between 20 and 50,000 people. Here, 5,600 Aborigines live in the whole of Arnhemland.

The workers get approximately \$75 a fortnight. They pay only a small rent and services charge and no taxes at all. Food and clothing prices for many items are much higher than in the "Aradura C". Jay saw apples marked at \$1.20 each (each!), a child's overcoat for \$24 and a women's petticoat for \$10.

The method of shopping is different too. Customers form a queue in front of the fruit department for example, and pick up a chit (paper) for the things they want to buy, then they form another queue to the cashier to pay. Everywhere there were queues, some of them very long. The people in the queues pushed and shoved and there didn't seem to be much common courtesy.

John and Jay visited some of the Churches which are being restored as tourist attractions and as museums. They felt that the Russian people had been deeply religious in the past and now a lot of devotion was given to such things as the factories, especially those producing more than ^{the} output set for the five year plan. A queue $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long wait daily to enter Lenin's tomb and pause for the maximum of 7 seconds before the grave of the founder of Communism. In the main airport several book stands were stocked entirely with the writings of Lenin and Marx etc.

They found that in these days Siberia is being advertised as an attractive tourist area, in which flowering orchards flourish. The Village Council on Monday night were concerned that some wrong doers who are sent away to neighbouring communities walk back before their period of banishment is fulfilled. Perhaps it would not be too cruel to pack one or two off to Siberia.

The outstanding event for John and Jay in their stay was a visit to the ballet. The large theatre seating 6,500 people was packed and the performance was superb. The seats cost \$5 each.

DOGS: Councillor Mnyal said that the Council needed to act immediately and first thing to do was get rid of sick dogs. So it is proposed to load all such dogs as can be found on Saturday afternoon onto a truck and take them toward Gudjerama. "John Hunter with .22 there, standing, and shotgun..... because kids are getting diarrhea and sores everywhere."

PUNISHMENT OF OFFENDERS: The Council feels that it should be able to send people to another place if necessary, but not to Darwin, which is a bad place. Rather to Milingimbi or Eleho Island or Snake Bay. Also people who fight or do silly things should be warned 3 times and then fined £5 each. Five Jinang and Ganalbingu men were named who fought with axes, spears & rocks.

STEALING TIMBER: Councillor Riata, a builder, reported pieces of 8x5 timber had been taken from buildings in the Gurwinggu area. Councillor Malawid said he'd try and find out who took it.

WATER AND ELECTRICITY: Councillors said that people wanted water and electricity laid on to their houses, especially water.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING: Councillors said that after discussion last week about the need for mothers to buy new clothes for their children and not gamble money away, Councillor Mnyal reported that he had spoken plainly to the women on Child Endowment day and many mothers had bought clothes for their

OTHER TOPICS DEALT WITH: Children smoking; children swimming at the beach - "get a life-saver"; wage increases for workers who've been on the same job for many years. Supt. said he would take this up with his bosses.

CONT. PAGE I. MOSCOW STORY:

Some other observations in brief were; The Russians regard themselves as a nation of pleasure eaters, women wear nylon stockings and knee length dresses, the people have little real knowledge of what is happening outside the Communist bloc.

To Australians it was depressing to find that people didn't smile. If we had to live through a long hard winter every year we might not be quite so light hearted either. As it is we live in a tropical paradise..... True?

New Arnhemland Paper.

Milingimbi have now joined the publishing ranks. They are asking for suggestions for a name, and the successful contributor will receive free copies for a year. Their Vol. 3 gives the names of streets which people have chosen.

This is a new section of the MIRAGE presenting some of the main news stories of the week. It is intended that some of the contributions will be provided by the senior pupils of the school and some of these items are printed below.

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LAND RIGHTS.

This week Dexter Daniels talked to a meeting of the Darwin Waterside Workers. He asked them to help the Roper River people to get control of their land. His brother, Mr. Dennis Daniels, said the Roper people had been asking the Government if they could get their land back for the past five years. "We have had no answer at all," he said. The Workers promised to help them and as a start each man will give \$1 a week from his pay.

Don Weibamunga.

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ACCIDENT IN SYDNEY.

A teenage boy was killed when he fell from a Japan Air Lines DC8 Jet at Sydney Airport on Sunday. The boy ran away from home and was hoping to get a free ride to Japan. He hid in the front wheel under-carriage. Many people saw the boy fall from the plane when it was taking off and doing 200 miles per hour. He rolled 500 feet along the tarmac and was killed right away.

Peter Bundubunda.

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INDONESIANS FOUND.

Four Indonesians have drifted down from the Timor Islands in Indonesian waters about 200 miles north of Darwin. They had left their home on January 3rd and were going to visit relatives on another island about 5 miles away. Almost as soon as they left a big storm blew up and drove them out into the Timor Sea. Their 10ft canoe lost its mast and they drifted towards Australia. They arrived at Bathurst Inland January 14th but they did not know where they were. They lived off the sea, eating fish, crabs and other sea creatures and drank rainwater, and also found a few coconuts. This week a motor boat came past and picked them up and took them to the Mission. Later they were taken to Darwin, all fit and well. Soon they will return to their own country.

Tim Darcy.

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MR. GIESE UNDER ATTACK.

The Member for Elsey, Mr. MacFarlane, this week said that "In the 15 years Mr. Giese has been in the N.T. there has not been one ounce of progress" (presumably in Aboriginal welfare). In an editorial of the Darwin News headed "So wide of the mark" Mr. Giese was defended with these words "..... Mr. Giese has forced extraordinary progress in some fields against strong resistance from racially-oriented sections of the public".

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NEWS FROM EX MADINGRIDA PEOPLE:

Sister Anne Groothius writes that she had a wonderful time in Indonesia. She passed her midwifery exams with 2 credits and now its time for more study for the Maternal and Child Welfare exams on June 6th.

Bonnie Davidson (used to be schoolteacher, Miss Claes or Miss Cline) writes "Kevin and I have recently been blessed (or otherwise) with a little daughter. We want to call her Nardin"....."after Nardin who lives in the Gunavidji camp." Has the name a meaning?

Bonnie and Kevin (Blue) live in Fannie Bay.

ALAN AND PUDGE LIGRAM (used to be farmer and office secretary). Sister Cec has just returned from a holiday with Pudge and Alan and reports that they are looking very well and send their regards to Madingrida Area. It is likely that Alan will go to Rabaul soon to take charge of the Lands Dept. Cec's impressions of their area at Hoskins in West New Britain, "wonderful."

CROCODILES:

John Naliva and party have moved on to Navy Landing. John says that there is one properly big one in Anamaiyara Creek and he hopes to have him soon, perhaps. Michael Burrul-buma has taken his party to Slyth River, all equipped for a killing but there is no news of their success or otherwise, yet.

DUTY OFFICER: MR ED. CAREY.

DUTY SISTER: SISTER EDITH TILLEY

SHOWING AT THE "STAR THEATRE"

Friday: See the Board in the Village Square on Friday.

Saturday: "Bonny Lake is missing"

CHURCH SERVICES:

Sunday; 9.30am. All age Sunday School "Temptation and sin"
7.30pm. Forestry Service - Forestry men will participate and bring implements, seedlings and timber used in their work.

Tues. 7.30pm. Women's Club.

RAINFALL:

<u>Total for February 781 points:</u>	<u>Total for Jan. & Feb. 1,771 points</u>
Fri. Nil	Tues. Nil
Sat. Nil	Wed. 5 points
Sun. 88 points	Thurs. 2 points.
Mon. 291 points	

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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