

1/24/11

14th May, 1967

Dear Ken,

A short trip to Canberra + Brisbane last week has delayed my letter, which I hoped to get off before leaving (but didn't). By now your two tapes should have arrived (4.13 + 4.14). I have copied them + while in Canberra was able to arrange for the Institute ^(Archive) to have copies of 4.13 + the 2 earlier tapes of the Walpin ceremony (4.3 + 4.4). In due course I shall see that the Archive also gets a copy of 4.14.

Messrs McAuliffe + Bayliff have remarked on the quality of your transcriptions + seem to be really impressed with all the stuff you have sent them. And you've done a 'Honey Ant'! The valuable work you have done on 'Honey Ant'!

Thank you indeed for that 80 pages of new material. Not only have you been able to retrieve for Jimmy dot another 20 odd song texts but you have provided me with extremely useful Capachwee melodic material. (It is true for you to send me Sam's versions of Yurampi singing I shall copy the tape + return it promptly - I see you leave the N.T. on 28th May).

There seems to be no end to the information we can glean about just one Song Series - given the ability to communicate with the singer, that is.

There appears to be quite a crowd of mythical beings involved in what seems to be one of the more important "ex lene" series. I prefer Tuddie's 'ex lene' to Elkins' 'love-nage', as it seems to be a closer ^{approx.} to the actual beliefs involved.

I am not sure if you mean me to keep the 80 carbon pages or whether you wish me to have them copied & then returned to you. They shall be safe here, anyway, until I hear from you again about this.

Your Butoba seems to be reproducing close to the "original" pitet signal, or to the pipe we have here which 'toots' an "A" like yours. Many thanks for your magnificent performances!

I have enclosed the material you lent to me relating to the Yunzulpali & Kantuvara. I look forward to hearing the related songs when the Institute sends me copies.

Incidentally I am asking Berfield to send you a set of my Auntam Land L.P.S (5). Sally & the boys may like to hear them and/or you may like to give them away as pieces of Australasia when you get home. Glad the Mungton Island trip was O.K. It must have been an interesting diversion - keep looking for the tin ahead & good wishes to you all - Sincerely, Alice