

them in the studio and at the home of Charles Chauvel, where she stayed.

Bob Tudawali, the leading man a fine, upstanding full-blooded Melville Islander, spent most of his Sydney sojourn at the home of Mr. Ted Burgess of Arncliffe. Ted Burgess has a wife and two children and they all took to Bob at once. They insist that if the handsome actor is brought to Sydney again he stays with them. Bob was born on Melville Island and spent most of his early years in the nomadic, carefree ways of his forefathers.

However, he was sent to a mission school by his father, but his schooling was interrupted quite early by the death of a brother and sister. Bob's father thought he might lose Bob too, so he took him back to Melville Island.

Bob has spoken to the present writer about his experiences during the Japanese air raids on Darwin. He was employed as an orderly in an R.A.A.F. hospital at the time, and the horror of the Jap onslaught has left an indelible impression on his mind.

He was later sent south and worked as a truck driver for an advanced workshop in the army. In fact, Bob has absorbed a good deal of the white civilisation as a result of the war, and this has stood him in good stead.

He did a number of jobs after the war and became a champion Australian Rules player in Darwin. An imposing figure of a man, he seems to epitomise the ideal of the wild Australian black. Actually, he is soft-spoken, polite, well behaved.

During the production of "Jedda," his wife, Peggy, fell ill with a chest complaint and Bob was extremely worried about her. In fact, he had to come to Sydney while Peggy lay in Darwin Hospital, but she is quite cured now and the two are living in a Housing Commission home at the moment and Bob is working for the Commission.

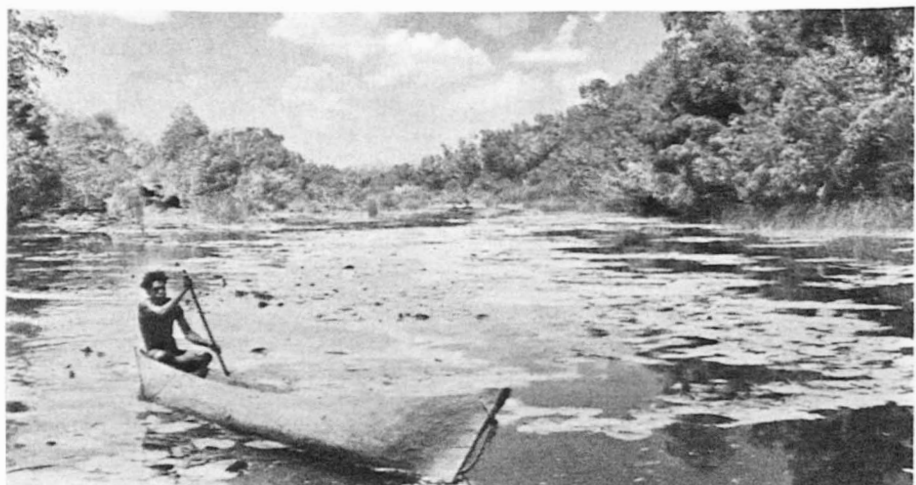
Bob and Ngarla are two typical Australians, hard working and good living. They are a credit to their race and both of them feel that by their portrayals in "Jedda" they may have advanced the cause of the Australian aborigine just that much further along the road.



**Because there were no canoes on the Roper River, these beauties had to be transported several hundred miles from Cape Don. Research officer Bill Harney helps some locals unload.**



**Director Charles Chauvel congratulates Bob Tudawali (they know him in Darwin as Bob Wilson) for a fine piece of horsemanship in one of the scenes for "Jedda." Bob is a Melville Islander.**



**One of the many aborigines working on location with the "Jedda" unit paddles a canoe-load of precious colour film down the Roper River to its storage place in a sandstone cave.**