



53 JUN 1972

MANINGRIDA

MIRAGE

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Friday 4th June 1971



They Could Have Danced All Night.

In a colourful spectacle at Goulburn Island on Tuesday the people celebrated the signing of the mining agreement with ORMAC. Visitors there were aplenty, top mining men, parliamentarians, representatives from the surrounding missions (and Maningrida) plus a supporting cast of cameramen, news gatherers, P. R. men, etc.

Proceedings got under way about 4.00 pm with some "warm-up" dancing and singing by various groups from Goulburn, Croker and Maningrida. A barbecue followed, in the most attractive school-grounds, the venue for the event, then the people really got down to business, just after dark. The dancers came on again and kept coming, their performances punctuated (clever organisation) from time to time with a procession of speechmakers. Top speech of the evening was that given by Bunug, who thanked the various outside organisations for the assistance given in concluding the mining deal. Philip Magalnir welcomed the visitors whilst George Wininguj acted as M.C. Responses were made by the Rev. Gordon Symons, Sam Calder and Mr. Ivan Alcorn (on behalf of the visitors.) In a moving ceremony Mr. George Darling, of McIntyre Mines, presented a panning dish and geologists' pick to the Goulburn headman, Nangolomin, who in turn presented him with a stone from the Goulburn country, to symbolise the link between the miners and the people. These objects were dedicated by the Reverend Cyril Alcorn.

Then more, more, dancing. The entire population at Goulburn and their guests, sat enthralled by the performances. The Goulburn men were excellent, restrained, co-ordinated, expressive. This was admirably counterbalanced by the pyrotechnics of the inimitable Paddy Fordham who really "turned on" and had all the photographers, professional and otherwise, hopping around to get the best shots.

The M.C. had to put the clampers on proceedings about 10.30pm as it looked like becoming an all night turn and long after the throng had departed to bed, the bamboos and clapsticks could be heard throughout the township.

One could only be deeply impressed by the obvious significance of this occasion for the Goulburn people; the joyous culmination of that which they had worked so hard to achieve.

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Seeing "Skip" at Snake Bay

Your raving, sorry, roving correspondent took the opportunity last week to pay a visit to Skip at Snake Bay. Sorry, but it can't be said that he is looking in the pink. He is not even gentleman enough to lie down and die - he's just got to keep on working. Your reporter arrived at Snake Bay just on dark, secured a lift into the town, was duly deposited at "the palace" - no Skip - he was out working.

After being conducted around the immediate environs - by Mark Mirigal and Norman Angulagula - and regaled with stories of snakes under the floor, possums in the roof, and aggressive coconuts which leap off trees to stun passing strollers, he was sufficiently influenced to retreat into the mansion.

Fortunately Skip put in an appearance at that stage, from somewhere up country. As reported before he has had a recurrence of some old internal troubles, had to spend a few days in Hospital, and is now out and well about his business, but obviously not feeling fit. Still, he's in good spirits, looking forward to the prospect of returning home next month and leaving his mark at Snake Bay in the meantime.

If any place is conducive to philosophical discussion it must be the verandah of the Superintendent's house at snake Bay - what a location. Waving palms, beach, lapping wavelets - its got the lot. Anyway, the hours fly only too quickly and soon it was time to crash, oops, sleep, as your correspondent was due back in Darwin for his quarterly haircut early the following morn.

PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

SUMMARY OF MPA COMMITTEE MEETING 2.6.71.

1. FINANCIAL DETAILS WOULD BE PUBLISHED QUARTERLY IN FUTURE SO AS TO GIVE BETTER PICTURE OF BUSINESS SITUATION.

2. **BULMAN**

President gave details of meeting in Darwin with Mr Giese and others. It was proposed to push ahead with investigations re a joint company venture (subject to their agreement) with Banyili to operate the Bulman Project, to seek a lease of 1700 square miles at Bulman, to investigate the feasibility of operating an abattoir at Banyili and a slaughterhouse at Bulman, to explore the possibility of incorporating Beswick Station in the venture, and to carry out studies regarding more intensive land use in both areas. Mr. Jettner would be doing further study at Bulman this week. Maningrida Council had requested a conference with leaders from Banyili to consider the proposal further and President had to follow this up.

3. **FISHING**

The oyster market was not fully explored. \$136. had been paid out to oyster gatherers in the past week but the demand exceeded supply; it was not therefore possible to assess how much could be consumed locally. The local fish market had reached saturation point - 700-800 lbs per week. There were problems in maintaining the interest of enthusiastic fishermen when they had to limit their input (and income). There were many problems in exporting fish, notably from the Health viewpoint. The Health Inspector had inspected the plant - his report was not yet to hand and was expected to include a list of minimum essential works to be done.

4. **TELEPHONE**

This was now installed.

5. **BAKERY**

Should be finished this month - house in mid-July. Applications for baker's position were considered and further information was to be sought from one applicant.

6. **HOUSING**

The electrical contract for 5 houses and bakery had been let to Wolpers & Law and their electrician was already on the job at Maningrida. Plumbing due to arrive next barge.

7. **MINE**

The ATP 2836 (S. of Maningrida) was to be explored first. The geologist, his staff and equipment were due to arrive shortly, also the Beaver aircraft to do the airborne survey work. Geiger counters were being sent from Canada for use by the aboriginal prospectors. FAM had not yet been formed.

and a meeting was proposed for 2 weeks time. Messrs Yibberal and Bagshaw were elected to represent Maningrida on FAM.

8. GARDENING

An experienced gardener was due to leave one of the missions and might be interested in a position of gardener at Maningrida. He was to be contacted.

9. STORE MANAGER

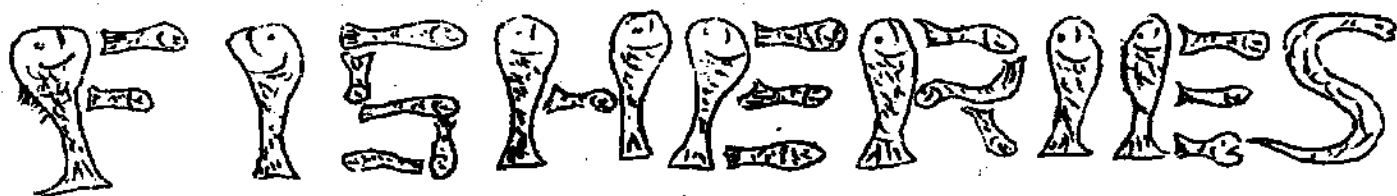
An advertisement to be lodged immediately seeking applicants. It was decided to build a 3 bedroom house. Details to proceed immediately. More applications for residential leases to be made.

10. SPORTING COMMITTEE

The \$1000 grant had been expended in cement, etc. for the basketball court. The RAAF plane was coming to take 20 children and 2 men to the Darwin Games. A referee had been assaulted at Basketball and disciplinary action taken. A Judiciary Committee would be set up comprising Councillors and Sporting Committee to deal with future cases.

11. MISCELLANEOUS

Decided to contact the Welfare Division re the condition and inadequacy of school toilets, provision of rest room facilities at the airstrip and reticulation of water to village houses.



1. We are awaiting news on:
 - a. If the grant for the Progress Association to operate Fisheries will be forthcoming. (The Benefits Trust Fund Committee Meeting was to be held this week.)
 - b. A report from the Department of Health. An Inspector visited Fisheries last Thursday 28/5/71. This is Important. The Department have a high standard of hygiene.
2. The Refrigeration Plant should shortly be operational, on one compressor only. There are still parts required to bring the Plant up to full scale operational level.
3. Without Ice and adequate facilities we are maintaining a consistent catch of mixed fish, more than sufficient for the Store, Hasty Tasty and Welfare Kitchen.

John C.

BASKETBALL

In the First semi-final, Kupanga defeated Cadell 54-46. This was a real battle from start to finish. Cadell were leading 25 to 22 at half time.

Arnhemland were not spot on, and Cape Stewart could not make their shots count early in the game. Arnhemland won 49-46.

In the second Semi-final, Cadell were beaten by Arnhemland 45-41 in a very close game. In the second half Arnhemland got ahead with some quick baskets, and then Cadell's burst was too late.

Grand Final - Kupanga v Arnhem on Tues.

LOST

A silver citizen's watch
lost from Mr. Jim Pickering's home.
Finder please see Sister Eva.

Reward for
the finder.

— Council. —

Tommy Reports

The President, Mr. Tommy Yiberal, reported on Civics Course held in Darwin. He didn't go there for training only; he also went to talk about Maningrida's problems and progress. They talked about a lot of things, houses, school money and work. They looked at the way Europeans do things. He had attended a Legislative Council sitting. The Legislative Councillors were old men and they argued a lot, close together, not a long way apart like aboriginal people. The President of the Legislative Council had his muraian behind him. They argued about aborigines country.



Only two men stood up for aboriginals, Mr. Giese and Mr. Kentish. They know what they are thinking and what aboriginals want. The white people's towns are still a long way from Arnhemland; those two men really fought hard for aboriginals. They know.

There should be committees to look after some things and to help where possible, education, health, municipal activities, businesses, etc. Aboriginals have to be responsible.

The course visited the Darwin Hospital and the Home Management Training Centre.

The President had related his ideas to the other members of the Course, some from Central Australia. Some of them were old people but they wanted to go forward, too. Aboriginals have to help each other.

The Course members also visited Bagot, to talk with Council men there.

They were shown pictures of New Guinea and it gave them a lot to think about. There were many, many tribes in New Guinea, with a lot of different languages. But they came together and they elected people to their Parliament. Sometimes these people couldn't talk English and needed an interpreter but that didn't stop them. Aboriginals can talk English and it should be easier all round for them to come together, too, if all those New Guinea people can.



The President said he thought that Maningrida people were winning a little. They had a pretty good council and ordinary people were starting to change. He saw that he had a good chance at the Course to talk to other people to tell them these things.

Other matters he had talked about were:

Permits: Aboriginals had not yet said that anyone could come through their country as they liked. (General assent from meeting). There were too many things that ordinary Europeans didn't know about.

Drink for people on training courses in Darwin: This had been asked about in Darwin and President asked other Councillors their opinion. They agreed that trainees in Darwin should be very carefully supervised, no running around, etc., and that they wanted to be assured of this.

Safety: Lectures had been given on industrial safety. People especially mill workers and machinery men had to be very careful.

Club: Other people had asked who started Club at Maningrida. President told them that his Council had started it but it took a long time.

Council cont.

Unity: People have to work harder to make a strong council. They are going the right way now; there are a lot of different tribes at Maningrida, but we can be one people.

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Present at the meeting, which was held on 31/5/71, were 16 Councillors and 35 visitors.

LETTERS: 1. Write letter to Mr. Giese re policeman.
2. Write letter to Mr. Giese re toilets and water.

STATIONS: Cr. Munyal: I was 25 years in Darwin and have been here 13 years. I still want to go and make my station. It doesn't matter if I haven't got anything. I will start from nothing.

DEVELOP-
MENTS: President said "We are starting off our own things, shops, ovals, roads, Cadell Garden, Bulman. People want to get these things under way. I told those people in Darwin about these things. We started them ourselves.

BAMYILI
"COMPANY": President explained proposal to "company" with Bamyili at Bulman. Council liked the idea but wanted to talk with 2 or 3 leaders from Bamyili to see what they were thinking. There were thought to be quite a lot of people at Bamyili who would be interested in Bulman.

MINING: Superintendent explained latest mining developments. The geologist was coming next week and the equipment was ready to come out to start on the Cadell River area. The aeroplane was also coming in early June. The mining people were taking caravans down there to live for about one year; they were going to build an airstrip. President said he wanted to go down with Ted Evans to mark secret places. Superintendent would have to contact him.

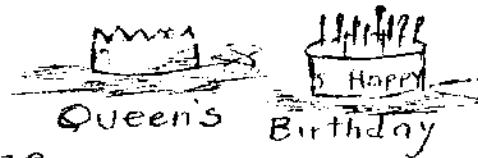
PICTURE
BUSINESS: Cr. Munyal said that people wanted pictures on Saturday night. Councillors would have to work harder to get more picture money.

DYNAMITE: Cr. Riala wanted to know what dynamiting was for. Someone might get hurt. Explained making new road and job finished already.

BASKET-
BALL: Cr. Riala said that kids should not be playing on basketball court while others at Church. Councillors should keep kids off basketball court.

HOLIDAY

Monday 14th June.



POST OFFICE

In November of last year, all papers, letters and parcels coming in and going out in the post, were counted. There was a total of 3888. In May another count was made and the total reached 4367. The figures given below are for May and the ones in brackets are for November.

	POSTED	RE-DIRECTED	RECEIVED.
A.	1,259 (867)	168 (144)	1795 (2069)
B.	238 (168)	89 (33)	594 (440)
C.	parcels 56 (38)	4 (3)	194 (126)
GRAND TOTAL.	4367 (3888)		

TELEPHONE

The telephone service is now in operation through the Katherine Exchange. For outgoing calls contact the Store, reincoming calls it is suggested that possible callers be made aware of the times available, i.e. store hours. An alarm is affixed outside the store and should a call eventuate and be heard it will be taken irrespective of hour of day.

The P.M.G. state categorically that conversation cannot be picked up in radios, should at most times be clearly audible, and is much stronger than the Welfare Radio.

Trial calls have thus far been exceptionally good.

TELEPHONE NUMBER: MANINGRIDA 3026

MINERALS.

After 6 months of pretty constant endeavour, the mineral search is all set to go.

Mr Brian Purdie and wife Barbara will arrive to live at Maningrida in a week's time, Brian a New Zealander is a geologist with McIntyre Mines of Canada and could be here for 12 months.

Also expected in a week's time an aircraft and team of 3 from Canadian Aero-Survey, to follow will be a further geologist, mechanic etc. McIntyre expect shipment of their gear, caravans, Toyotas etc. etc. barge after next.

P.S. Area 99. Maningrida A to P. starting approx. 60 miles south, and adjacent to the Bulman Road is now considered to be perhaps the best prospect of all.

G.B.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The Saga of the Maningrida Town Clock (cont) this tense drama is now moving into its third year and shows every sign of being as long as "Gone with the Wind" and as sickening as "The Sound of Music". You remember that the clock finally arrived - and then we discovered that it's motor was not compatible with our electricity supply. We discovered that to correct this small matter would cost a mere \$250 or so - hence it was decided that the clock should go back - but to save money we resolved to send it overland. We dispatched it aboard the trusty Connair jet addressed to a transport company in Darwin who were to take it back to its home in the sooty jungles of Sydney's Western Suburbs. Some weeks later however we learnt that the transport company had transported itself out of Darwin leaving no forwarding address. A shower of telegrams later it was discovered that the Town Clock had made it's way to Ansett. We are not sure if its on a plane, a truck or waiting for one or both. We have decided to write to the company that manufactured the wretched device to see if it had made it back home. A wise person had proposed that we put it in the Lucky Dip stall at the Easter Bazaar - we should have taken his advice. Don't miss the next exciting instalment.

PREFECTS BADGES: It was resolved to purchase school badges for the Prefects to wear on their uniforms.

TOILETS: It was resolved to write to the Assistant Administrator Welfare to appeal for his assistance in expediting repairs to the school toilet block.

D.G.

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Your new Secretary is John Gardenir

Vital Statistics:+

Home Town - Melbourne, Vic.

Age: 25

Last Job - Taxation Dept.

Marital Status: Unwanted.

John brings a good deal of experience to the position. His other interests birdwatching, fishing, and anything else that presents itself. He intends to stay about 15 years at Maningrida. Welcome, John.

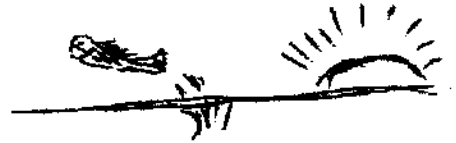
J.H.

H O M E

The sun sails into the Cadell River sky,
And another day - like the cast of die,
Breaks into being, while life stirs a new,
And the warmth slowly dissapates the morning dew.



Animals and birds wake to greet the day,
From Navy Landing to Rolling Bay,
And the fish of the sea - silver gleaming,
Leap out of the water-metal-like seeming,



The people stir and shake off the night,
While the morning star dis 'appears from their sight,
So the small children play and roll about,
And soream at each other with glee in their shout.



There are Buradas, Jinangs, - Rembarrangas too,
Gunavidjis, Nakaras and Gunwingu,
People from Gadji, to the othor side,
Camp by the Liverpool in view of the tide.

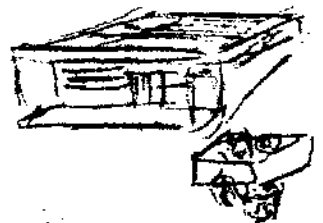
As the day gets hotter, and the pace gets slower,
The gardeners rest - and smoke by a mower,
The rubbish truck goes to the Gudjerama dump,
And under the mangoes, the bark painters slump.



In arrives the Heron: - VH - CLV,
Due at twelve-ten, its now half-past three!
The Fourcroy is in - in fact it's just docked,
Some cargo is wet after being thrown and rocked.



On top of all this, its pay day as well,
And in the store its a merry hell,
As material, food and clothes are bought,
And Geese Truck manifolds anxiously sought!



But slowly the sun slips into the sea,
A ball of orange Flame dying in the lee,
And another night creeps on its way,
To signify the end of the day.



Geoffrey Bagshaw.

Be careful with matches.
Break your match before you throw it away Then it will be safe

WEEKEND DUTIES: Duty Officer: Mr Bill Beckett
Duty Sister: Sister Ena Pickersgill
Nightwatchman: Mr Jack John

STAR THEATRE: Friday: "Psyche 59" (probably about 59 people at Maningrida)
Saturday: "Lancelot and Guinivere"

CHURCH: First Sunday after Pentecost
9.30 a.m. Sunday Schools "The Holy Spirit working through our gifts"
7.00 p.m. Evening Service
Thursday 7.30 p.m. Fellowship

When people can do something well, we say that they are "gifted" - have a special gift in their life. Paddy Fordham and Caruso have gifts for dancing and singing; Billy Yiriyin and Jockey have gifts for fishing and hunting, some women have gifts for being good mothers and good at washing and mending clothes. Everyone has some gifts. The gifts are given by God.

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit worked through the ordinary gifts of speaking, helping, healing which the disciples had. He made these gifts stronger, more pointed, and more useful.

The Holy Spirit can work through our gifts too if we will let Him.

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NEWS FROM OUR GLOBETROTTING JETSETTERS

On Tuesday I received a letter from that famous international playboy David Gulpilil, (who now signs himself David Filmstar of Australia). He sure sounds as if he is having a terrific time: "I have seen all the world, and soon I will tell you all about my trip on the Round-the-World Airline." David has been making many films for television in London and New York and talking on "the heart of New York radio". He tells me that he has made many friends on his trip.

All the smoke and dust in the air in New York made Dick Bundalil's eyes very sore for a few days.

After New York the stars will be flying to Hongkong for a few days. The film they starred in "Walkabout" is due to be released in Australia in July. I have written to the film makers, 20th Century Fox., asking them if Maningrida could borrow a 16mm copy of it.

C. Pullen

FROM A SYDNEY NEWSPAPER (A FEW MISTAKES!)

The Sydney newspapers have had many stories about the film "Walkabout" - in which Dick Bundalil and David Gulpalil star. David and Dick have seen many places and one newspaper wrote a story about them while they were in New York, in America. David has been on big television shows and many people want to meet both of them. The newspapers have a lot of trouble getting things right. They have changed David's bush name to Gumpilil. They say that David speaks a language called Mundilpino and that he went to school at a place called Milingimba. They also say that David lives at a place called Mirrangadja 'Reserve' and there he has a nice shiny new fibre glass boat tied up in the Arafura Sea and the boat will make life different for him at Bulman Station!

David told the newspaper men that he is missing his family and he wants to come home soon. He says he would like to make a cowboy film. David might be making another picture soon with Rolf Harris all about Aboriginal people.

Mirrangadja 'Reserve' is on the mainland S^W of Elcho Is. - Sheppy flies ^{OG} the

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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