

GE

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5/9/79

Dear Gae

Your letter of 31<sup>st</sup> August arrived yesterday and although the Festival is now in full swing I hasten to answer it.

In regard to your being the Australian representative at IASA, Cambridge UK, next year, I am all for it. Nothing would please me more than to have you there, contributing and absorbing all the latest ideas in this area. As you know, the whole concept of sound archiving & cataloguing of recordings is relatively new & few people anywhere have got as far as we have. I was quite sure of this when I attended the IASA technical sessions at Mainz in 1977. The general sessions included ethnomusicology for the first time at Mainz and, as I think I told you, Frank Gillis of Indiana Archives of Traditional Music read a paper — his point was that you can never have too much documentation for sound-recorded material. Ann Brughitt, is the ~~librarian~~ sound archivist/librarian at the former Institute of Ethnomusicology UCLA. I think this is now the Ethnomusicology Section of the Music Dept. She did a survey of Sound Archives in Europe. If you are interested it is ~~in~~ one of my shelves — see Selected Reports of the Inst. of Ethnomusicology, UCLA (years ago I lent this article to a senior technical officer, who shall be nameless) What I am trying to say is that the IASA people are aware of developments in this field and as the Australian representative I said then of any one better equipped than you are.

Of course I should like to go, too. I gave it more thought many months ago, but my grant for work on Great Eylandt goes on until October 1980 & I can't be away in July — I've made plans to return here May - July 1980. It's good that you accept



fit in so well. 2

Yes. Write to the woman in charge by all means. Tell her you would like to read a paper on the Cataloguing of Australian Aboriginal Music & that the joint authors of this paper are A.M.M. & G.K! Explain that I shall be engaged in field work at the time, but that I am anxious that the paper be read by you - or whatever you want to say....

I was surprised to hear that an Australia Branch of IASA has not been formed yet. On second thoughts, it is probably just as well, as the "foundation steering committee" was not a representative body and at many of the meetings Paul, Laurel & I were the only ~~members~~ present. Yes I would be prepared to represent the Institute if asked. But, being "retired", as a staff member, this may not be acceptable.

If you represent Australia at Cambridge next year, then you should represent the IIAS on the steering-committee-to-be. I shall make this point when I get back. That you so much for all the support. Yes, I know David Lane would handle things well. He is a competent person in many areas, though there are some with more expertise in fewer areas.

I was very interested in your former letter of 20<sup>th</sup> August. Since receiving it I have heard from Cherie Twiss that she has accepted a job as a chorologist with a Ballet Company in Munich. She has worked with them before & they have asked her to come back. This has been a disappointment to me as she had hoped to come to Groote Eylandt to see the Dance Festival. There are groups here from Hookbait (all women!) Amurgen, Roper & Fox Rivers as well as the people here from Umbakumba & Amurgen. I've been filming (!) with my own little movie camera Filmsonic. Highlight was when a dog started chewing my film microphone! You need sex hands for filming with sound, I only wish you were here with me.

I can see there is a big job growing with the computerized catalogue. Hold on to it! You are first in & that means you are always going to know more about it than the next one. I like the new journal, it is single vertical rather than a horizontal spread, isn't it? Can the ladies in the punch room do it themselves? If you marked each ~~line~~ <sup>margin</sup> with a red ink // Only a suggestion - I'm not as far ahead as you are. Have heard from Ian Davidson. He will be at the Haldon Symposium. MacCabe, 1981, etc.