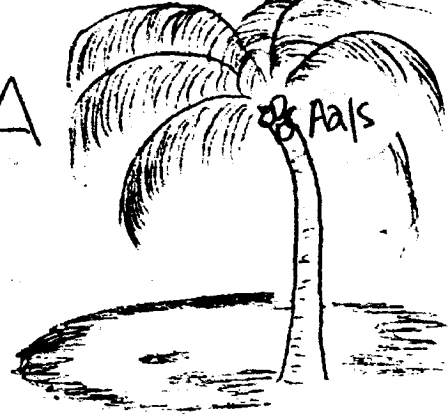


MANINGRIDA MIRAGE Vol.120



Fri. 21st Jan. 1971.

Meals on Wheels

Between 4.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. each afternoon, the grey dodge can be seen moving through the village. When it stops near a group of houses, small children led by mothers or big brothers and sisters, bear down upon it from every quarter with cups, and often bright new plastic dishes. The driver, Mr. John Hunter, becomes the genial dispenser of milk and the receiver of moneys (10 cents for each child up to 6 years of age and 20 cents for the occasional elderly frail person.) Cook Toby Malagaliya, seated on a chair in the utility, presides over the dioxies of potato, vegetable and meat and buttered pieces of bread. Close at hand, is Sister Edith who indicates any children who need a special diet and taking note of those who have come for a meal and any who are unable to pay until pay day.

In two busy hours an average of 200 nourishing meals are dispensed to young children. The scheme has been operating for two weeks.

It came into being because attendance at the evening meals in the kitchen had dropped off. In another couple of weeks, it is anticipated that some assessment of the value of the evening meal on wheels can be made.

Sickness.

Some of the smaller children have taken ill suddenly as a result of a chest infection which has been doing the rounds. Three children have been evacuated in the last couple of days, and there have been a number of less serious cases. A notice to mothers - if your baby gets sick during the night, go and see the sister straight away, as children with sore chests need to be treated quickly.

Rejoicings

Thursday's Connair brought Sister Scribbins to join the embattled staff at the hospital. Sister Scribbenshails originally from Sydney, but has been in Brisbane for the last three years, where she has done midwifery and maternal and child welfare courses.

Boat News.

Readers of the Darwin News will have noticed that Dick Smith (Jnr.) and John Wave Hill both attracted good sentences of one month for stealing liquor from staff quarters during Christmas.

Stranded Travellers.

A request has come from Oenpelli for "Help" for Messrs. Billy and Tony John, John Maiyara and Peter Bunjuljul who have evidently reached the end of the line after a journey from Darwin. Relatives are financing the rest of the journey per Connair.

Bound for Beswick.

Mrs & Mr Dan Watson, with Helen and Paul, arrived at Maningrida on Wednesday to pack up their gear. Dan has been appointed to manage Beswick Station, a Government Cattle Station about 50 miles from Katherine.

Adventures on the Race Track.

The motor-cycle trail race, scheduled for last Saturday afternoon, was postponed for one day, in order to encourage more riders to enter, and also to give those who did turn up on the Saturday, a chance to sample the track.

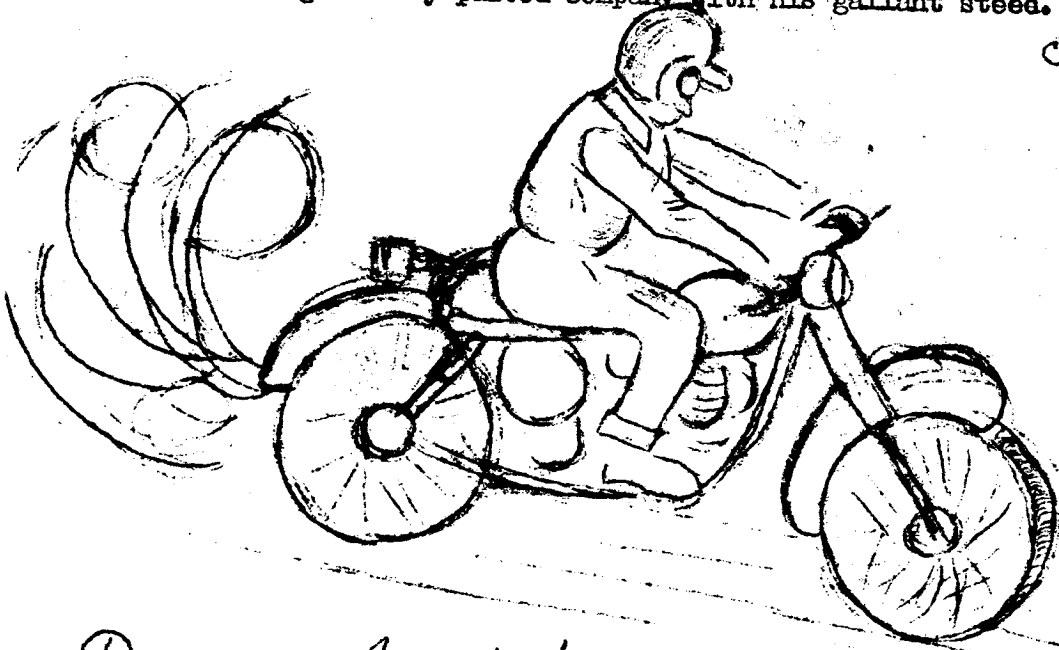
Even so, Sunday's turnout was small, to what had been expected. For some reason or other, many of the bikes were 'out of order' on this particular day.

Muck engine revving was heard prior to the race, at Fisheries Beach. Then they were off!

At the first and only real obstacle, the sandpit near the Leper Hole, the four contestants were neck and neck, with Chris Burchett in the lead, Ron Berryman a close second, Phil Romeo from Eagles, third, and John Carpenter bringing up the rear. The sandpit proved too much for John Carpenter's bike and unfortunately for him, he had to push it out of the pit and try for another re-run through; this time successfully.

Somewhere between the sandpit and the finish of the race the positions of the riders changed somewhat, Chris Burchett lead all the way to finish comfortably, with Ron Berryman in second place (later disqualified for taking shortcuts), John Carpenter was third, and Phil Romeo came in last, having somewhere along the way parted company with his gallant steed.

C. G. B.



Progress Association

Store.

Work has commenced on the conversion of the Food Section of the Store to Self Service. It is hoped that minimal inconvenience to customers will be experienced during the building alterations.

Gardens.

The irrigation Pump and Plant have now been installed and are operable. Bob did the final piece of installation in the heat on Wednesday. He gave his staff the day off in case everything went wrong and he became tempted to say a number of bad words. However, just as it was getting dark, the job was complete and water was spurting from the irrigation lines. Then just to add to the general moisture content, the heavy black clouds above opened and rain poured down.

A Nursery of sweet potato cuttings is established, the old diseased banana plantation has been taken out and a new plantation is being planted.

Monies toward salary subsidy for the employment of Bob Collins from the A.B.T.F. we are pleased to say, is to hand for the first year.

Mr. and Mrs. and Master Cross leave us next week for a month's holiday in Victoria.

G.B.



Happiness...is... Hooker Creek.

"Oh Struth!!" grinned Bill. All I saw when I got off the plane was a white gateway... with half of a windmill fan on either side, and a sign painted "Welcome to Hooker Creek."

"Oh Struth!" I thought. "What's happening? Where am I?"

The next thing that happened was that 500 million flies smelt a new man arriving. A lot of people were there and they were waving to me but I was only waving the flies off.

Sandy Jarrah, the president of the Village Council came up and shook my hand and welcomed me and talked about his visit to Maningrida. The Aboriginal people were friendly and I had more questions asked about Maningrida than I can remember. There's a lot of interest and there's the thought of the sea.

The staff were asking, "What's Maningrida like? and Millingimbi and Oenpelli and those other places up there?" And a fellow coming from a paradise like Maningrida to Hooker Creek!!



Soon after arriving Bill accepted an invitation to travel across the desert to the 7 mile bore. "It's not far away," I thought, "and will be back soon!" So I didn't take any water. We went out about midday and got back at 4p.m., but I don't remember that. I woke up in bed. When I had a drink of water- it didn't seem to go past the back of my mouth but all went into my tongue.

That spell of heat exhaustion took 2 days to recover from. I'll never go anywhere in the desert without water again.

You feel the isolation of the place, There are very few visitors, little news and mail only comes twice a week, and you run to see if there is anything in those pigeonholes on mailday. You can tell that the Aboriginal people have no other contacts. Daisy, wife of Bob who comes from Millingimbi, notices this too-- "They don't have much to gossip or talk about." Daisy works in the hospital and fits in very well with everyone.

KITCHEN.

There are no animals about, only the little lizards in the sand. So the kitchen supplies a lot of tucker. For general meals there is a full attendance. Fresh fruit and vegetables come on a plane each Friday, but the 'overland barge' only comes about once a month.

Breakfast for babies begins at 8.30 and mothers come from a long way - $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 mile away. The council are pretty strong and a Councillor is on duty to see that all the mothers come. If any are missing, he stirs them up.

The names of non paying parents are posted up at the shop. People read these and if parents come to shop after payday they say 'What are you doing up here when you haven't paid for your baby meal? This works!'



My offsider and I make 93 loaves of bread and it is available at the 3 meals and some is available at the shop for sale.

HOSPITAL.

A very common complaint is 'bung-eye' from the flies. Most people are like Lord Nelson with only one eye and eye patches are worn by everybody.

During fights people just pick up a stick and hit and hit until one goes down. I haven't seen any spears about. So the sisters have a lot more stitching up to do than at Maningrida.

The friendship between Aboriginal people of the centre and Europeans is much greater. There is more understanding. This helped me to adjust when I first Arrived. They come up and talk quite often.

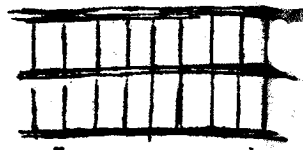
Interview with Foreign Affairs reporter.

A.P.S.

WHIRLWINDS

"Where ever you look you can see a whirlwind. They go for miles across the desert. They're powerful too. They have been known to whirl across a big bore tank and to lift half the water up into the sky."

From the Letter Boxes



Mr. Bob Egges of the Commonwealth Employment office, Pt. Hedland.

"The intense heat of 120° on Christmas day kept most people inside for the festive season +++ I took shelter in an airconditioned caravan!"

"Ray Buzza has been promoted to Assistant District Officer at the Bunbury Office. This is a Class 5 position and yesterday I heard my position was now being reclassified to a Class 5, so I am very pleased about that. I am about to leave for Roeburne and Hampier to find work for Aborigines. Please give my regards to all my friends at Maningrida."

Sister Sandra Stacey (predecessor to Sister Edith) has just completed a nursing diploma course in Melbourne with 2 credits and 3 distinctions. Congratulations Sandra!

On Jan 31st, Sandra will be in Alice Springs to begin her work with the Institute of Aboriginal Development. Here she will help to train Central Australian Aboriginal mothers in the mysteries of feeding and caring for their babies.

Elizabeth Vulainwanga has written from Townsville, Queensland. She says that she lost most of her clothes in the recent cyclone. She is urging her relatives to subscribe to a local Cyclone Relief Fund.

Sister Elaine writes from Darwin hospital.

"Went up and saw (Sister) Cec yesterday. She had her hair shampooed and set and looks pretty fit really. Is supposed to be getting up on crutches today, but so far only has a plaster from ankle to thigh, so whether she has to have one over the foot before she starts walking, I don't know."

Answer NO: 1

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			33					34		

Crossword NO: 2

ACROSS.

- Recurrent melody in film.
- Island in Mediterranean.
- List of duties to be done.
- Royal Order American Buffaloes.
- Countless.
- Containing meal.
- All round from outside.
- Help.
- Calm.
- Nickname for American President.
- Ancient stimulant.
- "Still waters run"
- Hindue queen.
- Stimulate.
- Inevitable.
- Wheat store.
- Edge.
- Brand name for washing powder.
- Japanese monetary unit.

DOWN.

- Clip a hedge.
- True and upright.
- Volcano.
- Wooden hammer.
- Horse.
- American name for wolf.
- Tract of proprietary land in India.
- Assist an offender.
- Australian Acacia.
- Wireless.
- Sorrowful.
- Persons highest conception.
- Famous name tea.
- Crysalline reddish substance got from indigo by oxidation.
- Man's name.
- Obliterate.
- Man's name. (abbrev.)
- Nonconsequential Administrative Directions. (inits.)

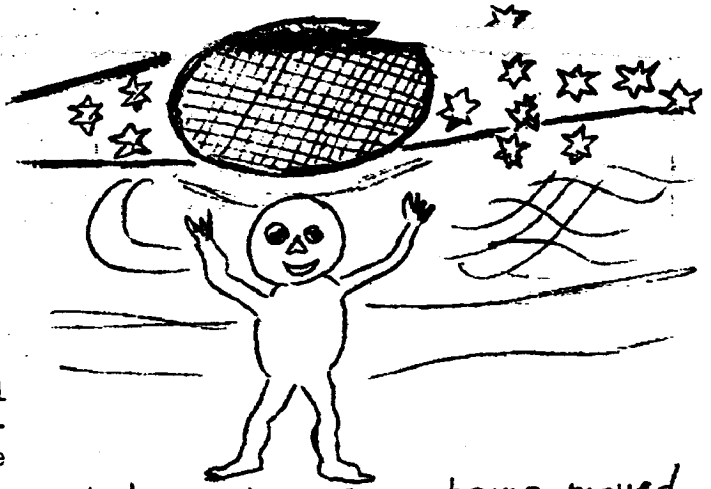
The Morning Star

Tinang Story
by Jimmy Matjiri.

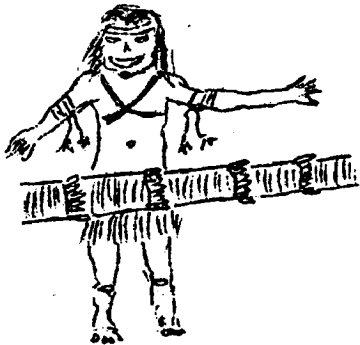
In the beginning this story was made for Aboriginal people- Dua and Yiritja. Because of this we Aboriginal people are making corroborees and dancing. It's not just for pleasure and interest. It is because the man, Djungawa was born.

You European people speak about an egg. There is a special Egg which we call Wandala, the Egg. It was high above us in the sky.

When Rangu the Moon moved it, it burst and became the Milky Way, Burrurru. The Human Spirit called Munyal (Ray Munyal is named after him) was on the ground performing and dancing in the evening for the Morning Star, Maratjura and some other corroborees such as bone pole etc. for



Wandala the Egg being moved by the Moon-Man when it burst and became the Milky Way.



Djanggawa "You can show this Maratjura (Morning Star emblem) to the people."

Dua and Yiritja people. The Head man Djungawa said "You can now take this Morning Star, Maratjura to show the people. But not the very sacred Madayan for Dua and Yiritja - only Maratjura.

In the first part of the dancing, the black and white sea bird that lives in the ocean Walangui and some other birds, show how they brought Maratjura floating across the sea to the mainland. It was dry there and they sat down to dance.

On the next day they were ready for the second part of it which shows how in the afternoon when evening comes the dancers

decorate themselves. When midnight comes, the Morning Star said "I have had enough sleep and now it is the time for me to appear. Wiyu, another, human spirit, was dancing all night through the ceremony and Walangui, the big black and white bird said "It is the time for us to wake the people up because the night is fading away. Then the Milky Way and the Egg faced the Morning Star toward the East and Barnabirr (another name for Morning Star) began to rise up.

That's why Aborigines are dancing, decorating, and performing the corroborees and songs in both the Madayan and Maratjura for Dua and Yiritja. This has happened from generation to generation since the world was created. As you can see in the bark paintings and in some other things, what we make and paint is not for pleasure and interest. But it is the Madayan which was given to us by our ancestors Burrurru (Milky Way) and Wandala (the egg) and Gururarr when he became the ground on the earth.

In earlier days, the people were killed for laughing near the bough shade 'Der', the ceremony place- for not concentrating while the business was on, and for some other reasons. The songs you hear, were not made up as you European people make love songs, Rock 'n Roll etc. but these songs, corroborees, dances, decorations and painting were given to us by our ancestors, Djungawa, Burrurru, Wandala and Walangui.

Forestry.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Fuller arrived on yesterday's plane and have taken up residence in the home occupied by Mr. Bruce Craven earlier on. Mr. Fuller is the new clerk. We hope to have a more complete story next week.

The New Eastern Highway marched from the Gudjeram Crossing to Du Gala dorna arriving there yesterday - and this now provides a link with the road made last year.

Planted of the new season's Cypress seedlings was completed last week.

E.Q.

J.P.M.

WEEKEND DUTIES: Duty Officer: Mr. E. Carey.
Duty Sister: Sister Ena Pickesgill.

STAR THEATRE: Friday: *Don't ask us!*

CHURCH: Sunday: "The Life of God's people."
9.30a.m. Sunday School.
7p.m. Evening Service.
Wed. 7.30p.m. Crusades Fellowship.

In the bush the long yans are growing now and their vines are climbing up the trunks of the trees and the palms.

Jesus said to His friends, "I am the vine itself, you are branches. If you remain or live in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit. Without Me you can do nothing."

BIRTH: Heather daughter of Mary Maruwanga and Toby Giese Barlmala on the 16th Jan. and weighing 4lbs 11 zs.

DEATH: Moses baby son of Tom Waldidi and Nita Jibatwala in Darwin on 16th Jan.

MARRIAGE: Melanie Wayguma and Willie Waymugini.
Relatives have agreed to the marriage of the young couple and they are living in a tent near Willie Djakerla and his brothers.

PEOPLE:

Peter Green brother of Sister Helen from Brisbane returns home on Monday after a holiday at Maningrida.

Rodney Williams leaves on Friday for high school at Charter's Towers after staying with Alf and Elva Dickfoss. Those Queensland schools follow the principle of being early birds.

Mr. Dan and Lyn Watson and children arrived on Wednesday to pack up their belongings ready for moving to Beswick Station where Dan will continue to work with cattle.

Malcolm and Mavis Thomas and family arrived from Yirrkala for a fortnight's holiday last Monday. Malcolm is the Store Manager at Yirrkala.

Norman Angelagela departed on Saturday to join the MPA Transport Branch in Darwin, where he will do an apprenticeship course in motor mechanics

Sister Stutchbury of the Health Department in Darwin, visited Maningrida last week to confer with the medical staff.

Mr Greg Hore from Jayndih Qld is due to come to Maningrida at the end of March to work as a builder with the housing Association. He is to be married on March 11th, so he will be accompanied by his wife.

Rod Seymour and Greg served their apprenticeship together under the same contractor, and worked together for five years.

The Weather

	Max. Temp.	Humidity	Rainfall
Friday	91.5 °F	87 %	-
Saturday	90.5	81	7 pts.
Sunday	88.0	83	10
Monday	86.0	82	86
Tuesday	90.0	79	89
Wednesday	90.0	80	41
Thursday	89.5	79	57

Thanks

Thanks to all of Maningrida for Telegram of congratulations on Philip's arrival and thanks, too to the Maningrida Progress Association for the lovely and greatly appreciated sheath of flowers.

To Mr. Trevor King chief Editor for the last two weeks. B & H Cross G.A.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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