



POLITICAL OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE MIRAGE ARE THOSE OF INDIVIDUALS ONLY AND THE EDITORS EXCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM.

Next Saturday you will have to vote for the Government of Australia. You will have to pick between Sam Calder from the Country Party, John Waters from the Labour Party and Allan-Stewart who doesn't have a party.

I am saying that you should vote for John Waters - for the Australian Labour Party. It is up to you to make your own pick but I think that Aboriginal people could only vote for the Labour Party.

The Labour Government is the only government that has given any help to Aboriginal people in Australia. It has bought more money to be spent on Aboriginal housing, health and schools. It has brought award wages and thrown out the Training Allowance. Most important of all, it has brought Land Rights. This week in the paper Justice Woodward bought out his land rights report. The Government has said they will follow his story. His story is all of Arnhem Land will be owned by Aboriginal people - fully owned by European law - and all mining rights will be owned by Aboriginal people too.

Don't vote for Sam Calder - he is only speaking for the big cattle station men and the bosses.

VOTE

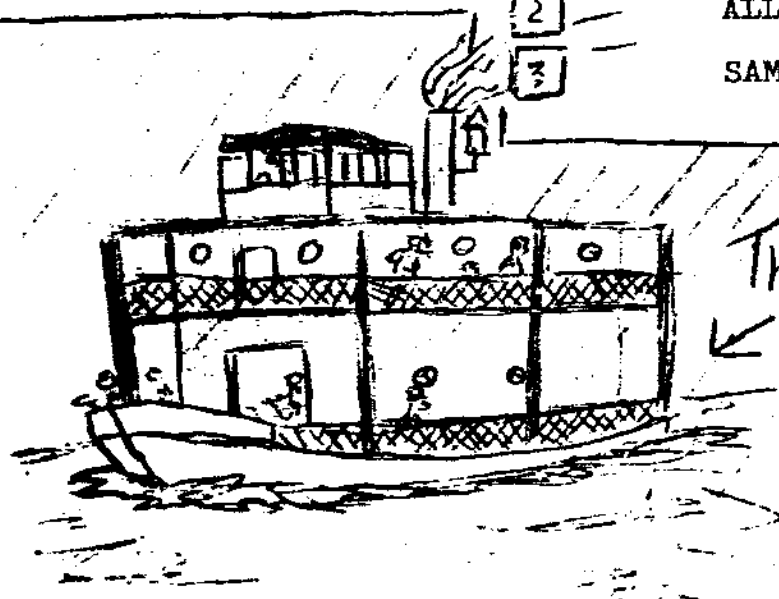
- 1
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JOHN WATERS

ALLAN-STEWART

SAM CALDER

Dan Gillespie.



The Balikpapan

The might of the Nation's Defence Forces visited us last weekend in the form of the landing craft BALIKPAPAN. The barge landed at Entrance Island (and stayed there) because the master was worried

about the depth of water available - something that has never alarmed the stalwarts from V.B.Perkins.

The lads in green acquitted themselves well - they asked if they could see the Blyth River from here, remarked that the weather was hot on the "island" of Maningrida and made a victorious assault on the shop to buy cold drinks. It is believed they made a couple of trips up the Liverpool in search of the elusive Cuthbertson Falls.

Everyone retired tired and happy and headed for the Goyder River, bashing into the 5,000 cans of beer and 5,000 soft drink they bought to stave off the tropical shakes.

reflections of, the way life used to be...

One often sits and marvels at how things, people and places change in a short time. Today, I sit, but I do not marvel, I wince, I cry in anger and frustration at the rapid change in Maningrida. It was only last year when we were all happy and only too keen to help each other. But, alas, this year is a pity.

In a community of this size it is necessary the the various departments to assist each other. Not one department here is totally self-sufficient. Everyone and every department has to lean on another for help at some time.

The whole community depends on the Progress Association. They provide us with foods, bread, drinks, fuel, clothing, fishing gear and hardware. They have a telephone, which to their inconvenience, they allow departments and private persons to use. This luxury is appreciated by everyone but abused by some. The MPA has been "Blocked" from buying, building or renting housing to employ more badly needed staff.

Government departments are regularly using the telephone, whether for incoming or outgoing calls. Private vehicle owners are constantly purchasing fuels and oils from MPA. Everyone buys food etc. at some time. The luxuries are taken for granted. How many of us stop to consider how long it takes to unload and price goods, from a barge consignment? How many of us realize how hard it is to bring drums of fuel up from the barge landing, after loading it one drum at a time, manually, onto a truck and then pump it into the tank? How many of us realize the little manual power the MPA has?

Which suits us better? To close the shop for 3 - 4 days, while gear is transported and unpacked; or, co-operation from other bodies thus making shop closure unnecessary?

Last year MPA was not as big, but they had much assistance from D.A.A., Forestry, Housing and Education. They even had co-operation with accomodation problems. This year, due to a few policies but more personalities, the inter-department co-operation has become interdepartment conflict.

Will Maningrida become another Umbakumba, or Hooker Creek? I think so, if a few people don't start smiling and lending a helping hand. Does anyone consider the needs of the aboriginals? They buy the fuel, food and clothing too you know. Aren't we all here to help them meet their needs. Why not try some care and respect you stirrers. Throw the rule books away and use your heads !!

MAY GOD BLESS MANINGRIDA.

Gladys Pascoe.



'Jocky' the crocky = he's been everywhere!

These are the movements of the crocodile now known as "Jocky" since he was first sighted near the barge landing on March 26th, 1974. The map shows the different places that he has been either sighted or picked up with the radio receiver. And of course, all sightings by Crocodilus were verified by the radio receiver.

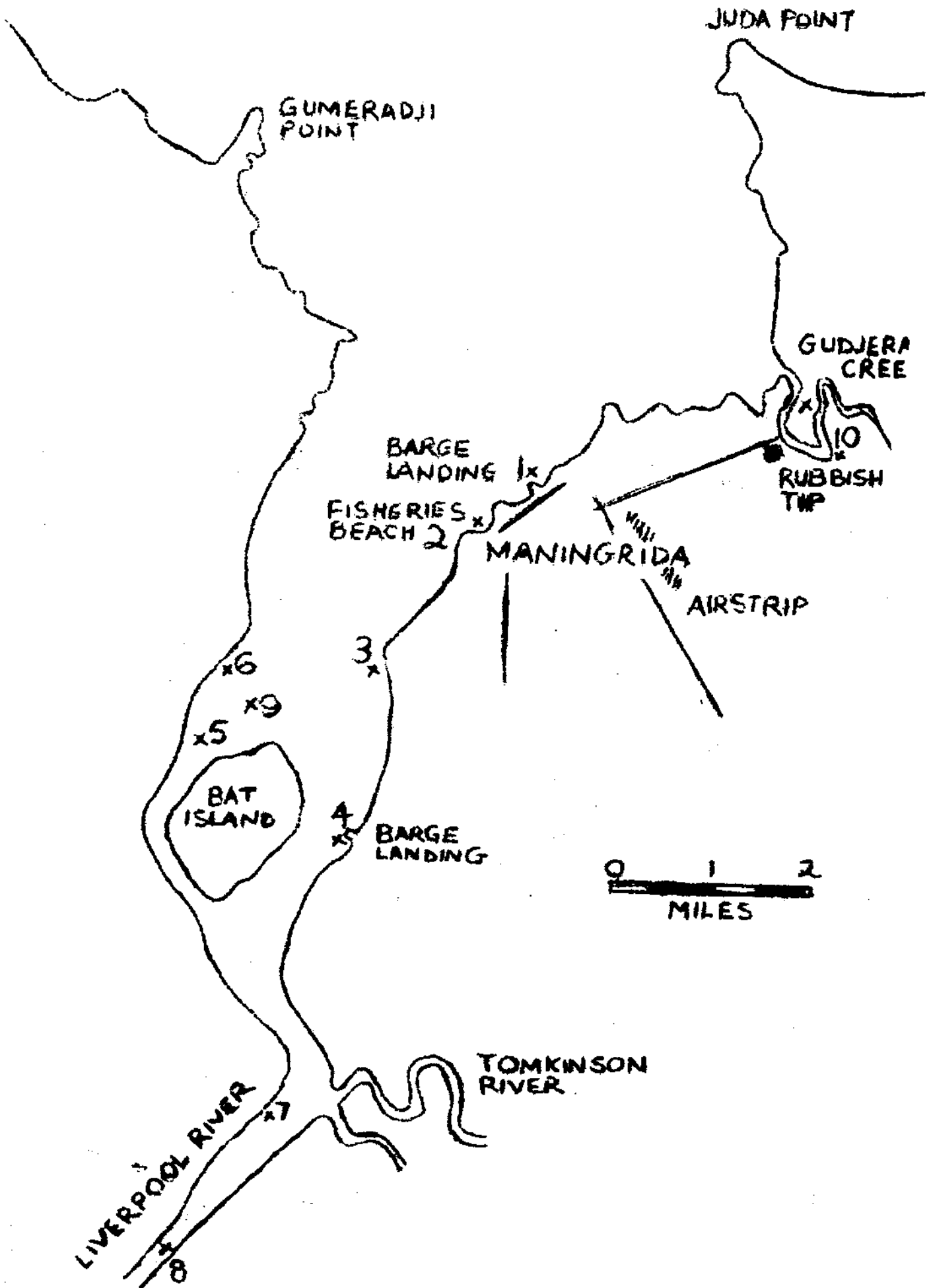
The greatest known distance he has travelled is approximately 16 miles, which is the distance between position 8 on the map (near the second bend in the Liverpool River) and the Position 9 on the map (Gudjerama rubbish tip).

Here is his history, so far:

- March 26 first sighted near barge landing (position 1)
March 27 captured on Fisheries Beach (pos.2)
April 1 released on Fisheries Beach with radio transmitter attached to his head.
April 2 Located in small creek, on east bank of Liverpool (pos 3)
to
April 7
April 8 Sighted next to new barge landing (pos.4)
April 9 Returned to small creek (pos. 3)
to
April 10
April 11 Sighted floating in water (pos.5)
April 12 Sighted in among mangroves on east bank of Liverpool (pos.6). It was also reported that on April 12 he was seen floating passed the camp on the west bank of the Liverpool opposite Fisheries Beach.
April 13 sighted in among mangroves on west bank of Liverpool(pos.7)
April 14 picked up with radio receiver at night (pos.8)
April 15 picked up with radio receiver (pos.9)
April 16 during this period he was not located because of a receiver malfunction, but on April 22 he was sighted by
to
April 30 Joe Webber and others in Gudgerama Creek near the rubbish tip.
May 1 Picked up with receiver 400 yards upstream from Gudjerama rubbish tip (position 10)
May 2 observed basking in the sun 500 yards upstream of the mouth of Gudjerama Creek
May 3 sighted floating downriver passed rubbish tip
May 4 not located on this day
May 5 picked up with radio receiver about 1 1/2 miles upstream of rubbish tip at Gudjerama Creek.



Jacky's Map----



amateur excavators:

Inconsiderate and thoughtless people are still attempting to move around to places like Crab Creek (Namingarra) and Juda in vehicles. Naturally they are getting bogged and the roads are being torn up in attempts to get vehicles out.

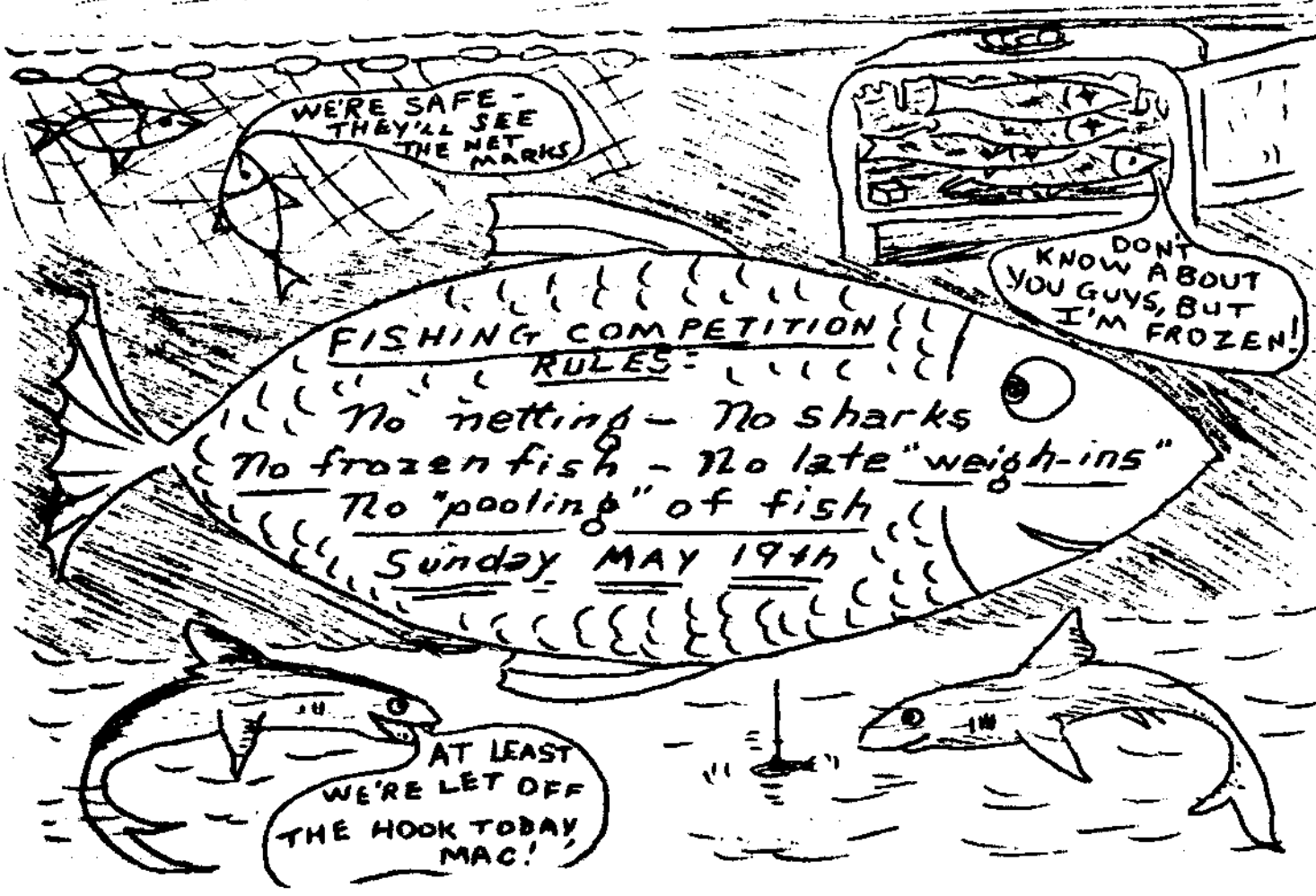
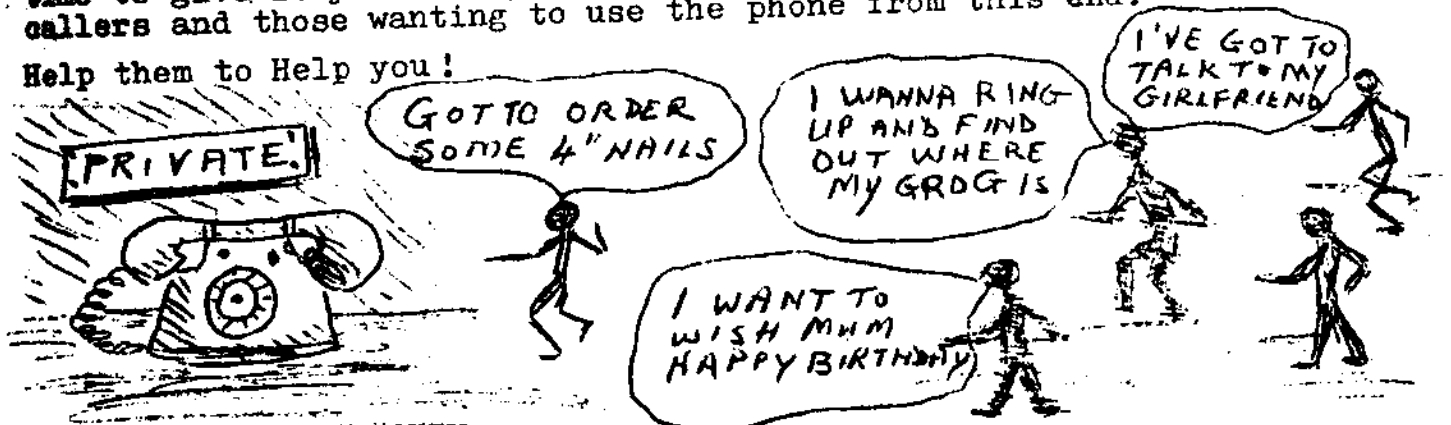
- Be responsible :-
1. If the ground is soggy leave your vehicle and walk.
 2. If you don't know the country don't try it without advice.
 3. If you are a newcomer to Top End bush driving, learn a bit about it before trying a baptism of fire.
- When you are bogged you are usually not the only who is inconvenienced.

from the telephone meeting :

It would be appreciated if members of the Community would advise the friends and relations of the circumstances and ask them not to call except for an emergence involving a family crisis or similar. It would also be appreciated if heads of Departments advise their Head Offices of the circumstance and requests. The exchange will not hold the line open long enough for the person being called to be located.

If you want the best service from the shop, you must give them the time to give it you. They spend most of the day being abused by callers and those wanting to use the phone from this end.

Help them to Help you!



CHURCH NOTICES: As usual.

DUTY OFFICER: "Not me". "Not me".

DUTY SISTER: Sr. Mike

PICTURES: See notice board outside the store.

"Housie, Housie"

HOW TO KEEP A SETTLEMENT CLEAN:

Method: Rotate inhabitants regularly - it is a well known fact that human nature cannot allow itself to live in dirty houses and unkept yards. Therefore, as the place gets untidy, rotate your staff and you will have a clean settlement.

Naturally the 'music' rings when one is told it is time to shift to another residence and clean it up and make it habitable. Of course people don't like this shattering upheaval but if done often enough it will become the accepted policy.

Boothadie ??

The Dentist will be here from ^{May} 13th to 21st June of this month and will be here for approximately 6 weeks.

X-ray at Hall

13th MAY TO 17th MAY (Compulsory)

Hey you men - it's Mother's Day next Sunday - the old cuppa tea in bed routine, you know.

Maningrida Mirage

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