



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

ALPHER_B08

**Sound recordings collected by
Barry Jacob Alpher, 1987**

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit by [email](#) to arrange an appointment to listen to the recordings or to order copies.

Restrictions on listening

This collection is open for listening.

Restrictions on use

This collection is open for copying to the speakers and performers on the tapes and their families. All other individuals may only copy this collection with the permission of Barry Alpher.

Permission must be sought from the relevant Indigenous individual, family or community for any publication or quotation of this material. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the Copyright Act (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1987

Extent: 10 sound cassettes (ca. 60 min. each) : analogue, mono.

Production history

These recordings were collected in October and November 1987 by linguist Barry Alpher, during fieldwork at Kowanyama, Queensland. They feature texts and song texts in Yir Yoront. Speakers include Jerry Mission, Patrick Eric, Walter Greenwool, Raymond George, Ethel Colin, Thomas Bruce, Robin, Sam Colin, Norman George Junior and Lily Raymond. The material was deposited with AIATSIS on 13 November 1987.

RELATED MATERIAL

Important: before you click on any links in this section, please read our [sensitivity message](#).

Transcriptions of parts of field tapes 87.4 and 87.7 are held in the AIATSIS Library, see [MS 2564](#). Photocopies of handwritten transcripts of all the tapes are held in the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive. Photographs by Barry Alpher taken at Kowanyama between 1967 and 1987 are also held in the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive, see [ALPHER.B1.BW](#). For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult the Institute's Mura® online catalogue at <http://mura.aiatsis.gov.au>.

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Barry Jacob Alpher and audition sheets

prepared by AIATSIS staff.

ITEM LIST

| Archive number | Field recording number | Description |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 012225 | Field tape 87.1 | Yir Yoront texts and language elicitation relating to technology by Jerry Mission |
| 012226 | Field tape 87.2 | Yir Yoront texts, including some autobiographical material, by Jerry Mission |
| 012227 | Field tape 87.3 | Song and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission |
| 012228 | Field tape 87.4 | Language elicitation, song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Patrick Eric, Walter Greenwool, Raymond George, Ethel Colin, Jerry Mission, Thomas Bruce and Robin |
| 012229 | Field tape 87.5 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission |
| 012230 | Field tape 87.6 | Oral history in Yir Yoront and English with Peter Michael, Ezra Michael, Jerry Mission, Simon Greenwool, Patrick Eric and an unidentified male speaker |
| 012231 | Field tape 87.7 | Language elicitation and oral history in Yir Yoront with Sam Colin and Norman Junior George |
| 012232 | Field tape 87.8 | Oral history in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission |
| 012232 | Field tape 87.9 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission |
| 012233 | Field tape 87.10 | Language elicitation in Yir Yoront with Lily Raymond |

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

012225/Field tape 87.1

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Jerry Mission |
| Subject keywords: | Language – Linguistics – Vocabulary and grammar; Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012225A | 00:00:00 | Language elicitation in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | 17 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:07:35 | Language elicitation and discussions in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | 19 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:33:27 | End of ALPHER_B08-012225A. | | |
| ALPHER_B08-012225B | 00:00:04 | Language elicitation and discussions in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | | |
| | 00:29:56 | End of field tape 87.1. | | |

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012226/Field tape 87.2

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Jerry Mission |
| Subject keywords: | Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012226A | 00:00:00 | Language elicitation and discussions in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | 21 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:33:14 | End of ALPHER_B08-012226A. | | |
| ALPHER_B08-012226B | 00:00:07 | Language elicitation in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | 21 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:03:12 | End of field tape 87-2. | | |

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012227/Field tape 87.3

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Jerry Mission |
| Subject keywords: | Music – Vocal – Solo – Male |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012227A | 00:00:10 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | 21 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:33:25 | End of ALPHER_B08-012227A. | | |
| ALPHER_B08-012227B | 00:00:05 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | 21 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:10:04 | End of field tape 87-3. | | |

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012228/Field tape 87.4

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Patrick Eric, Walter Greenwool, Raymond George, Ethel Colin, Jerry Mission, Thomas Bruce and Robin |
| Personal subject(s): | Gilbert, Bob Dunbar, Constable Brown |
| Subject keywords: | Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation; Music – Vocal – Group – Mixed voices |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012228A | 00:00:09 | Language elicitation in Yir Yoront with Patrick Eric, Walter Greenwool, Raymond George and Ethel Colin. | 25, 26 and 30 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:27:53 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission and Ethel Colin. | - October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:33:19 | End of ALPHER_B08-012228A. | | |
| ALPHER_B08-012228B | 00:00:05 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Ethel Colin and Jerry Mission. | 4 November 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:08:25 | Language elicitation in Yir Yoront with Thomas Bruce and Robin. | | |
| | 00:19:55 | End of field tape 87.4. | | |

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012229/Field tape 87.5

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Jerry Mission |
| Subject keywords: | Music – Vocal – Solo – Male |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012229A | 00:00:10 | Song performance in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. Features rhythmic tapping. | 27 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. Features rhythmic tapping. | 9 November 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:28:07 | End of field tape 87.5. | | |

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012230/Field tape 87.6

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Peter Michael, Ezra Michael, Jerry Mission, Simon Greenwool, Patrick Eric and an unidentified male speaker |
| Subject keywords: | History – Oral history, Stories and motifs – Plants |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront and English |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012230A | 00:00:10 | Oral history elicitation in Yir Yoront and English with Peter Michael, Ezra Michael, Jerry Mission and Simon Greenwool. Features the Pear Stories. | 29 October 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:23:57 | End of field tape 87.6. | | |

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012231/Field tape 87.7

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Sam Colin and Norman Junior George |
| Personal subject(s): | Old Chapman, Morgan, Billy Wilson, Peter Priest, Barney Possum, Wilson Horace |
| Subject keywords: | Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation; History – Oral history |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012231A | 00;00:10 | Language elicitation and oral history in Yir Yoront with Sam Colin and Norman Junior George. Features autobiographical material, including parents, education, employment and the war. | 6 November 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:33:20 | End of ALPHER_B08-012231A. | | |
| ALPHER_B08-012231B | 00:00:06 | Language and oral history elicitation in Yir Yoront with Norman Junior George. | 6 November 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:11:09 | End of tape 87.7. | | |

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012232/Field tape 87.8

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Jerry Mission |
| Subject keywords: | History – Oral history |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012232A | 00:00:00 | Oral history in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. | 8 November 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:08:09 | End of field tape 87.8. | | |

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012232/Field tape 87.9

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Jerry Mission |
| Subject keywords: | Music – Vocal – Solo – Male, Stories and motifs – Kangaroos / Wallabies |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|---|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012232A | 00:08:22 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. Features the Wallaby Songs. | 8 November 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:33:40 | End of ALPHER_B08-012232A. | | |
| ALPHER_B08-012232B | 00:00:00 | Song performance and commentary in Yir Yoront with Jerry Mission. Features the Wallaby Songs. | | |
| | 00:06:07 | End of field tape 87.9. | | |

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012233/Field tape 87-10

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Lily Raymond |
| Subject keywords: | Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation |
| Language/people: | Yir Yoront |
| Places: | Kowanyama (Qld NW Cape York SD54-15) |
| Recording quality: | Good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|
| ALPHER_B08-012233A | 00:00:10 | Language elicitation in Yir Yoront with Lily Raymond. | 9 November 1987 | Kowanyama, Qld |
| | 00:08:08 | End of field tape 87.10. | | |

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