

Czech Expedition

A team of eight Czech scientists arrived in Australia recently to make a study of two Aboriginal tribes in Arnhem Land later this year.

The leader of the expedition is Dr Josef Brinke, who, on a former visit to Australia in 1958, discovered one of the earliest Australian maps while studying for a diploma in geography. It was dated at the beginning of the 16th century.

The expedition plan to spend three and a half months doing anthropological research amongst the Rembarncas and the Djinbas Aboriginal tribes on the reserves in Arnhem Land.

The scientists will study the similarities between the Aboriginal culture, living habits, and the use of bone and stone implements with those of Stoneage European man.

Dr Brinke said in an interview that the study would be made relatively easy in many ways because there were in Australia Aboriginal tribes still living in virtually the same conditions as their ancestors hundreds of years ago.

The expedition's Aboriginal studies will include birth rate, mortality rate, age structures, infant mortality, relations between husband and wife, and local migrations.

The scientists and their assistants will make several films of their travels throughout Australia and will return to Prague in December to process their information and write several books on their findings.

Dr Brinke said they were most willing to cooperate with Australian scientists and would make their findings available to Australian scientific bodies, including the Australian Museum in Sydney and the Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

The expedition is being sponsored by the Moravian Museum in Brno, Czechoslovakia, which has one of the richest anthropological collections in Europe.

The expedition is being backed by a foundation grant from the United States.

Dr Brinke is planning a second anthropological expedition in 1971 or 1972 to Papua-New Guinea.

Pen-Pal Wanted

The Editor,
Dawn.

Dear Sir,

I am a teenage girl who enjoys all music, swimming, tennis, dancing, reading, and boys. I would like as a pen-pal a male aboriginal boy (preferably), who has just about the same interests as mine. I would be grateful if you could print my name in your magazine. I would like the boys ages to run from 14-25.

Thanking you sincerely,
Miss Rhonda Wright.

83 Mitchell Street,
Glebe 2037.
28th December, '68.