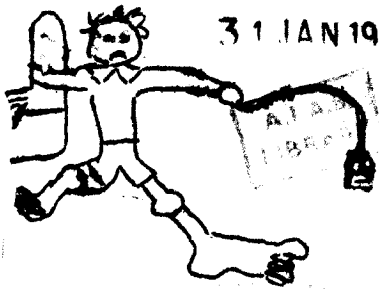


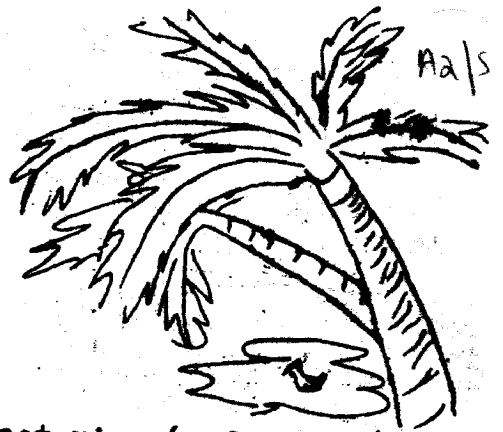
31 JAN 1973



Maningrida Mirage

Vol. 167

Dec. 15th '72



MINI-EDITORIAL

At this time of the year many institutions, factories (and people) are running on half power. The Mirage is going to do its bit for this noble tradition of holiday malaise by cutting down the size of the issues for a while - there just aren't enough literary people to keep up the supply of copy.

SOME OLD FRIENDS LEAVE US.

This week we said farewell to Gowan and Shirley Armstrong, John and Roslyn. It was a sad day for Maningrida when the Armstrong's departed. They have been at Maningrida for 10 years. In that time they have worked unstintingly in many aspects of community life at Maningrida. Indeed without the Armstrong's a number of progressive developments simply would not have occurred.

To everything that did Shirley and Gowan brought a touch of Love and Humanity.

We salute the Armstrongs, bid them farewell hope that we will hear news from them regularly.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME:

We say greetings to Alison Graver and Rick. Alison is a house parent at Kormilda College and Rick came to Darwin 3 months ago to work for the Y.M.C.A. - though he now spends half of his time working at the Carpentaria College.

They are both here to conduct an experimental programme in youth activities. They are trying out various ideas and programmes to see if they are feasible for more widespread application in the future.

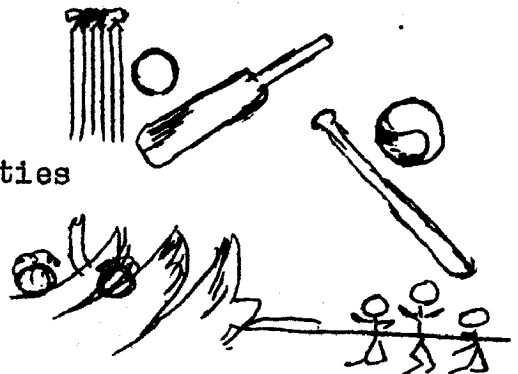
They are organizing all kinds of sports activities, swimming excursions, club work etc. Alison says she is hopeful that some of the local girls may be able to carry on some of the activities she commences.

In the first week they are working with a small group of children - familiarising themselves into the local scene. Rick expects more children to join in as the word gets around, though transport facilities will sometimes limit what they are able to do.

If the programme is successful the Y.M.C.A. is interested in extending it to other settlements in the future.

We wish Alison and Rick a pleasant and rewarding stay and success with their much needed programme.

Dan G.



NEWS FROM THE AIR-LINES:

That annual race with no holds barred - the Teachers Dash has been completed. Connair has been very busy with passengers and freight.

Wednesday's Heron was held up by a technical problem. Connair has been advertising its D.C.3 for charter with passengers or Freight. Will we see the D.C.3 on the Maningrida run folks? There are rumours that it may be so. Will give you any firm news that we get.

FISHERIES & EXTRANEIOUS NEWS

The fishermen have been netting off the beach again. Phil expects reasonable catches off the net.

Silas Roberts speared himself through the thumb with a screw driver - a nasty one.

The boats have carried people to Kopanga and Inangandua for the completion of the business. The "messenger" from the business was in the village on Tuesday evening and people are moving out in preparation for the finale. Betty and Rhys intend to move to Inangandua for the finale to record and observe the intensified food gathering activities.

from Phil G and Den G.

PEDRO THE SWIFT:

Michael Brown took a bus to Juda Point on Saturday with a large number of young passengers. When the money was counted one enterprising young passenger had passed off an Argentinian peso for a ten cent piece. Is this the first of a flood of foreign currency?

HOUSING ASSOC:

The Association has received word that it will receive further grants for the completion of the new houses now under construction.

CLASSIFIEDS: LOST & FOUND

Two stray articles have turned up at the store. Both appear to have been sent away for repair.

- 1 Sunbeam Mixmaster
- 1 Electric Frypan.

If anybody has any clues please see Graham Inglis.

STORE NEWS:

The Sale of insect repellent in the last week has been the equivalent of 3 months normal trading. Too many mossies.

One Kopanga customer was stocking up on insect repellent. He took 6 tins - but when he got to Kopanga he found he had 6 tins of Fabulon Spray Starch.

SOMETHING MORE TO THINK ABOUT!

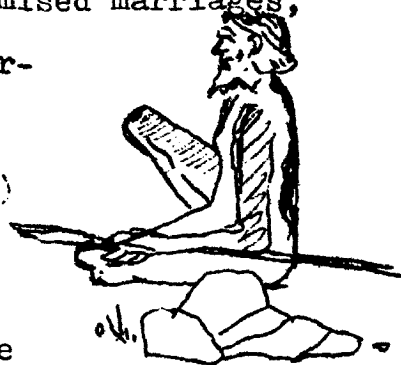
I agree with Rosemary Walters' article and her questions in the Mirage of two weeks ago. It is true that the balanda sometimes use bad words for us and have bad opinions about aboriginal people. The reason for that is often that balanda have not very much knowledge about our way of living. Our way is very much different from the European way. We have moieties, skingroups, promised marriages, dreamings and so on. White people don't have that and that's why it is sometimes hard to understand what these things mean to us.

Why do you criticize us for not living in the European way? 1) taps; 2) bathrooms; 3) stoves; 4) toilets; 5) houses; 6) lights; 7) kitchen.

When you like us to live in the European way we have to get all these things, but we do not have the money to buy that. We need assistance of the Government because we had to change to a money life and that means that we have to get jobs to get that money. We didn't need that in our way.

It is not easy at all to live in two ways, the Aboriginal way and the balanda way. You are telling us to combine the two ways, but that is not easy because on the one hand we depend on money and jobs and on the other hand we cannot live without our moieties, skingroups, dreamings, animals, country, totems and so on.

There are two "full sized" but we do not know what this really means, but if you can drink as much as you can



They say we are "full citizen" but we do not know what this really means. Some of us think it means that you can drink as much grog as you like. As citizen we live in the balanda law, but we have our own law too. For dealing with the balanda society we need assistance to learn to read and write and to fight for our own rights and to be able to explain our ways ourselves. We are waiting for younger people, who have had school for long time and know how to read and write. We need our own educated people, to explain our way to the balanda, but also to explain the European way to our older people: Here is only one Aboriginal young boy, Jimmy Pascoe Martjirri, who has been educated in many things, so he can tell balanda people many things about our ways. This is my mind and thoughts.

FORESTRY TALES J. Mirritji

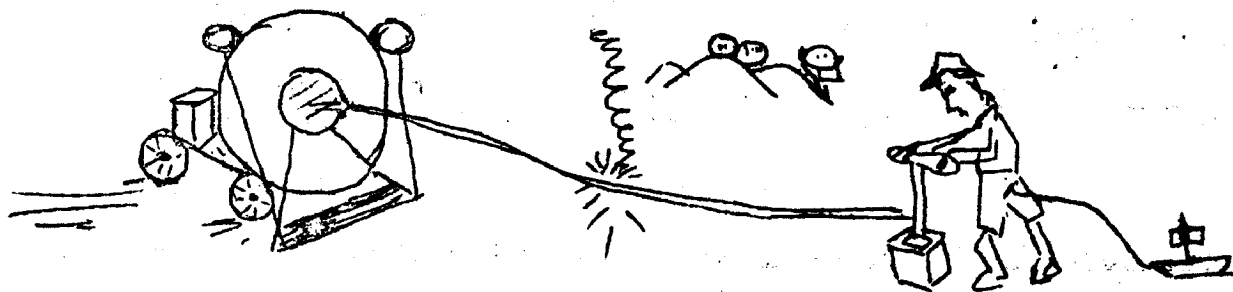
FRED LUFF has gone to Darwin to attend an explosives course. Fred will get an explosives certificate and from now on will do any blasting that is required.

JACKO SMITH from Forestry, Darwin arrived on 10/12 and will stay here as our clerk until 22/12 until our new permanent clerk CHARLES PRINCE arrives.

DOWSETTS have started gravelling the Cadell-Blyth road just east of the crossing. The job should be finished in a few weeks and then will allow conventional vehicles to travel to the Blyth River. The remainder of the road to the Blyth has recently been formed and graded and is now traffic-able.

A small selection of ornamental trees is now available from our nursery. Forestry men from Darwin, CHRIS HAYNES & COL WILSON were out here this week to look over our roading and preparation for planting. Chris & I hoped to drive to Kpanga on Tuesday but we're stopped by the mud in the channels--- I would advise people to exercise care in crossing the Balpanarra plains now as a vehicle could easily get stuck and have to stay there through the Wet.

MERV. RYDER & PETER COOKE are now busy clearing enrichment lines south of Tomkinson's Hut. We will be planting about 48,000 seedlings this year and have started raising a similar quantity for next Wet Season. We would appreciate advice from anyone who can tell us of any sacred sites between the Milingimbi Road and the Blyth River as we hope to put in roads and firebreaks in that area next year.



TROUBLE FOR SOMEONE:

In yesterday's paper there was a story that Billy John, Tommy John, Joe Fry & Tommy Fry were in court. They were charged with assaulting Terry Robinson at the Border Store. They pleaded not guilty and they will have to go to another court to tell the story again in February.

We said we couldn't find enough copy and we couldn't up till the last minute as the large space below this shows----- but then a few unexpected stories came to hand----- but too late for our typing pool ---they've earned a well earned rest. So here's a small part of the late stories'.....

Mr. J.P. Glulmina wrote a story about children who are breaking things--- like the wire in the Pre-School. He said that the Council is sleeping and that they should do more to stop this kind of trouble from children.

Mr. J. Burinyila wrote a story to say that people should always think about others when they are driving out on the bush roads. He said that one time he had to walk for four hours because a Forestry truck didn't stop for him.

Duty Officer: Mr. Rusty Steele

Duty Sister: Sister Maija

MOVIES:

FRIDAY: "Tickle Me" Elvis Presley. Lonnie Beal goes to the aid of Pam Merrit when a prowler enters her Dude Ranch hut. The sheriff warns she has talked too much about her grandfather's hidden gold. A search leads them to a deserted hotel where they are attacked, find the gold then ambushed all in one night. Elvis sings 9 song hits
SATURDAY: "Rio Bravo" John Wayne & Dean Martin. A Classic Western on the grand scale with Sheriff Wayne, assisted only by an old man, a young boy and a drunken gambler against a gang of gunmen determined to free a murderer held in Wayne's gaol. The tension builds up to a furious action-filled climax. May comic touches.

CHURCH

Third Sunday in Advent.

SUNDAY 9.45AM Sunday Schools

7.15PM Evening Service. Preacher Mr. Bob Cross

TUESDAY 7.30PM Choir Practice.

"For every hill I had to climb,
For every stone that bruised my feet,
For all the blood and sweat and grime,
For blinding storms and burning heat
My heart sings but a grateful song -
These were the things that made me strong.

ANOM.

"The word of God came to John in the
desert" St. Luke

PEOPLE:

Terry Bettefman, the new Welfare storeman arrived on Mondays plane to take over Barry Tuite's duties. He will also be doing all Connair business until the new Connair agent arrives sometime in the new year. Barry comes from Mt. Gambier, where his last occupations include both the carpenters' and undertakers' business. He says however that "The Mount" has very few jobs with any future in them. Terry served three years in the army, and himself and Jack Gardiner became very close friends when they served in the same unit together in Townsville. Terry is a real "rockhound" so maybe he and "Skip" would make a good pair. Marital status unwanted.

On Sunday afternoon two boys who attended the Madayan ceremony at Goulburn Island were ceremonially painted with a totemic pattern - Roly and Richard. Solomon's chest and legs were painted the week before. They are now "all clear".

Tommy Yibberal "The Boss" of the Kunapippi up on Cape Stewart, sailed for Yinananguwa on Tuesday. The ceremony is expected to finish soon.

Nice to see our Kormilda children back home looking fit and well

Margaret Inglis, Amelia, and Jimmy went off on their holidays on Wednesday, and will be followed by Graham latter on.

John Hunter took his troublemaker eye to Darwin for attention last week. He returned on Saturday with a pair of dark glasses looking a bit like Joe Cool of Peanuts fame. John fell ill again however, and as this was written he was still laid down.

Bob Collins - said to have spiked his foot badly. We are unable to confirm this one.

Alfie Roberts - like his father Silas, Alfie has a troublesome finger which had to go to Darwin

MEN'S B'BALL

Tues, 28/11/72 7pm C. Stewart 48 points def Cadell 32 points.

8pm Diama 42 points def Pioneers 34.

Thurs, 30/11/72 8' M.P.A. 36 points def Pioneers 34.

Chalkies 48 def Gandayala 43.

Tue, 5/12/72. No game.

Thur, 7/12/72. M.P.A. 44 points def Cadell 24
Gandayala 40 def Jinang 27.

The MIRAGE may not make it to the newsstands next week --- acute staff shortages. -ed.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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