



Maningrida Mirage



Volume 172

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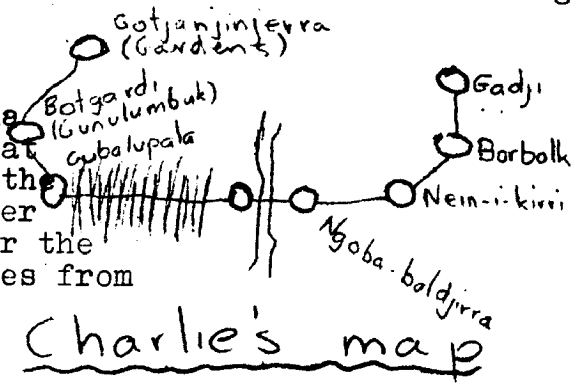
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A Long, Hard Walk:

In the Mirage from time to time in the past we have had stories from Aboriginal people about some of the long walks they have made. In all of them we have seen feats of endurance and ingenuity that are out of the ordinary. Here is one such story.

Approximately 10 days ago some people at Gadji, south west of Milingimbi, decided to come to Maningrida. They were all Maningrida people-- old Baku, the doctor man, Charlie Jarabili, Margaret Laraidbi, Margaret Bani Bani, Valda, Tammy, Jemma Ronnie and two small children--Francis, about 4 years old and Stanley about 2½. The two small children were carried all the way. Charlie and Margaret Laraidbi carried them. As well as the children there were suitcases, blankets and shotguns to be carried. A lot of the time it was raining and the blankets were wet and heavy.

The first place they had a sleep at was Borbalk. They had some flour and other balanda tucker with them. Next night they made camp at the place called Nein-i-kirri. At the end of the next days walking they came to the Blyth River crossing Ngoba-baljirra. They camped there for the night. Next day Charlie made three rough canoes from stringy bark-'old custom ones'said Charlie. They crossed the river with these and made camp on the other side.



Next day the party crossed the plain and came to Guba-lupala (Bamboo Creek.) and made camp again. The following day they headed up the "bulldozer road" and made their next camp at Botgardi (Gunulumbuk) - the crossing of the Cadell River. They had run out of flour at the crossing of the Blyth and now they were living on goannas and barndarr- the long necked tortoise. The last leg of the trip was up the road to the gardens at Gotjan-jinjerra and then a truck ride into Maningrida. Charlie says his neck and back are a bit sore from carrying the kids -though the kids all seem as lively as usual.

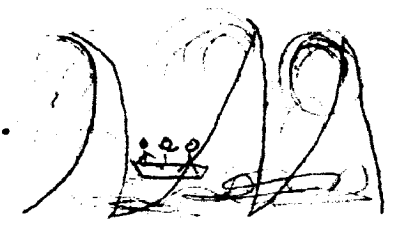
Old Baku seems to be very fit. On Tuesday he was showing people how hard his feet were. He and Harry Mulumbuk say that in the old times there was a "road" from Gadji to Guba-lupala. and people came along there-(possibly for trade.)

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A Long, Long Rescue:

Last week we had a story about some people who were lost in a boat and found by the R.A.A.F. plane.

After that a boat from Goulbourn went to look for them but they had gone again. Phil Green and Noel Perkins joined the search again but they were turned back by rough seas. On Wednesday the RAN patrol boat "Assail" came to Maningrida and she joined the search. A R.A.A.F. D.C.3 was called in as well. At lunch time they reported that they had sighted the people in Madarrgaidj Bay, not far from Cuthbert Point where they were first seen. The "Assail" later took the people on board and brought them into Maningrida.



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A lot of time and money has been spent to find these people. we don't have to worry about lost boats again for awhile.

D.G.

Forestry News:

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Chris Haynes is coming out in about a fortnight. He will be giving a talk to the Council about Forestry activities.

The ploughing competition between the Welfare grader and the Forestry grader will be judged by the first man to circumnavigate the pot hole near the Hasty Tasty. The submarine in the pot hole is believed to be friendly.

Crash!

- // -

We hear on the grapevine that Mr. Toby On's toilet was hit by a large vehicle and permanently laid to rest. As far as we know it was unoccupied at the time.

Home Movies:

On Wednesday night we saw a picture of David Gulpalil at James Wilsans place. We all Jinang people only. He was acting at Melbourne. But we will see it again Friday.

Mr. G. R. Garawun.

Classified Ads:

LOST: - 1 pup - blue cattle/fox terrier cross. Finder return to Terry Canning - Reward Offered.

WANTED TO OWN: One pup. Charles Prince wants a pup to lavish his attention on. Applicants form a queue at Forestry Office.

Gridian's Rise Again!

A Gridian's Meeting will be held on 14th February at Dawn Cuthbert's house overlooking the ocean at 7.30 p.m. Newcomers all welcome.

D. Cuthbert.

The Mirage Going Broke - Rumour of Takeover Bid!

PAY UP! PAY UP! Well the old Mirage is just about out of funds. Most people are due to renew their subscriptions. There also are many newcomers who are not yet financial. If you want to have the Mirage delivered to your hot hand every Friday pay your \$2.60 to Happy Jack Gardner, in the Welfare Office and help keep our creditors at bay.

Editor.

Caterpillars:

Can any entomologist or other knowledgeable person tell us about our caterpillar plague. Parts of Maningrida are covered in little green and black caterpillars. What's the story? Does anyone know?

Editor.

~~~~~

### WEATHER:

### RAINFALL

### TEMPERATURE

(9 o'clock)

Friday

3

28.5

SSaturday

1

29.0

Sunday

0

29.0

Monday

36

28.0

Tuesday

79

26.5

Wednesday

1

27.0

Thursday

0

27.0

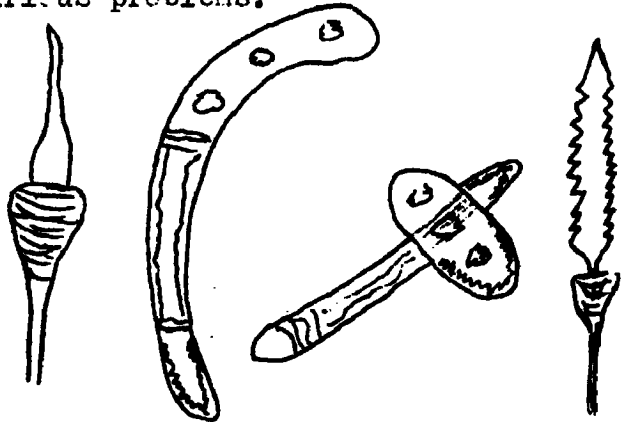
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My Sunrise (thinking) of the last long Walkabout.

This is my last story for sometimes. With the stories I came into the mind of a lot of people but I make a lot of worries too with it because I talk hard. I asked many things and I had a lot of hardship and now I stop for sometimes.

I am the barkpainter, crab catcher, mostly I am the hunting man, I am always gathering my bush foods for eating and some to sale fish, to get noney for my living and may be a new track. At present time I am still living in Maningrida Aboriginal Bara (north-west) Country. But after waiting for my big ~~■~~ barkpainting to finish (that is how I call my book), I and my few brothers will be able to leave Maningrida and go out to loose the people (malla) and forgetting them with in out various problems.

The last thing I will say, lesting the people, they are a bit shy to me, this is because I come from Yan Jinang, words of different tribes speaking to them all. But they are going to know me at the next dreaming, that is, future; and I think that I really forget them I believe these things and I think of that way as a very good one, but I must be very careful not to rush things to my own people. This is because the balanda way is very different and now for us.



Our little customs and rules are very ~~xxxx~~ dear prices, so that I myself understand about the initiation ceremony, that means that I can hold both the white Australian power and black dreaming nature. I won't forget my true tales and I won't forget father's spirit so that I can do the similar living as he and all my ancestors did. I keep the same dreaming of my ~~xxxx~~ ancestors, the dua men of thunderday (wulina) and the ~~x~~ wind of the north-west bara. I welcome the initiated men in the corroberree (bungul) to fight for the Aboriginal way. For time being I live with my barkpaintings and artifacts and paint for money (rupia), but in the future Aboriginal boys ~~xxx~~ may have other jobs. But I am the last exception for a lot of Aberiginals and this western area (Maningrida) is the middle of the turning of the black storm, that is in the middle of the changing ways. For plenty of us have been killed with ~~xxxx~~ stone axes (bindjara) returning boomerangs (kalli) fighting boomerangs (kalli kalli) clapsticks (null null) etc. These things all became weapons when man got clever and know how to make them all and use them for ceremonies and for making victims with human reptile bones for fighting and pointing.

It is time that the future is coming.

Jack Mirritji

Fisheries Story: ~//~

After the recent search and rescue operation perhaps people should think about how many passengers they carry in their boats. Stick to the safety limits. For a 12'boat--3passengers---m for a 14'boat--5passengers---for a 17'boat--8passengers including crew. These limits are for your safety---when people go searching it costs time, money and can be dangerous for them too.

Would anyone who has aluminium trays or orange plastic baskets belonging to Fisheries kindly drop them back or tell us where we can pick them up.

Public Meeting. ///-///

Public meeting on Monday next at 7.30.p.m.in the library to discuss the formation of a Hall Committee for the Maningrida Hall. All interested persons are invited to attend

J.H.

School Notes?

Beginning the school year is an exciting event. There are new faces and 'old' faces. Graduating pre-schoolies in trepidation are led over to the 'big' school for the first time. Graduates from the upper school are farewelled as they board the plane en route to Darwin, where they will study at Kormilda College and Darwin High School.

We have enrolled about 390 pupils this year with approximately 85 of these being at the pre-school. There are nineteen European teachers, one Aboriginal teaching officer and nine Aboriginal teaching assistants.

The new teachers include:

Denise Carwardine

Trained at the Sydney Day Nursery Teachers College and this is her first appointment. Denise is temporarily teaching an infants class due to a teacher shortage and will return to the pre-school when the situation is overcome. Denise was particularly welcomed at the Maningrida Church as we believe she understands the complexities of that mysterious instrument called the organ.

Pauline Baulding.

Trained with Denise as above. Pauline has brought her pretty little daughter, Nonie who is enrolled at the pre-school to 'keep an eye on mum' to make sure she working hard. One of Pauline's additional contributions to the pre-school is the fact of her typing ability.

Erika Ilyn.

Was at Maningrida in 1970 and has since taught in N.S.W. schools. However has felt the urgency for teaching in the Aboriginal situation and we certainly welcome her back. She was late back to school here but with very good reason as the early onset of the Monsoons in Timor caught all by surprise. The river at Dili burst its banks flooding the airstrip and Erika was evacuated by freighter from Dili to Bacau, thence here.

Judy le Cheminant.

Yes, the surname is French. Her great-grandparents were French. But we hear Judy didn't do so well in her French exams, so don't try and speak to her in that language. Judy trained at A.S.O.P.A. and this is her first appointment. She joins that happy band of people proficient in musical instruments = she plays the clarinet (haven't heard her practice yet)

Indra Salian.

Appears to be held up between here and Bombay. More next week.

Gladys Pascoe.

Our culinary expert in the Domestic Science centre. Gladys has taught in South Australian schools and later at Umbakumba and Milingimbi from where she has just come. We have an idea you will soon see Gladys involved in a number of the sporting activities such as basketball.

Allan (and Pat) Christopher.

Allan has been teaching in Aboriginal schools since 1966 with experience at Arcyonga, Yuendumu, Newcastle Waters, Amoonguna and Maryvale.

Lou (and Colleen) Poulter.

Lou comes to us with experience in New Guinea where he was manager of the Bogia Vocational Centre. He is our new Technical Instructor in the Manual Training Centre.

The 'old hands' include - Jackie Newman, Eileen O'Leary, Roger Pink, Bob Stutchbury, Didamain and Mick Uiibo, Margaret and Bruce Neale, Jan Cooke, Margaret Inglis, Jimmy Matjirri, Laurie Magaldagi, Rita Djitru, Nancy Gununwanga, George Garowun, Dudley Gabahawui, Jimmy Glulmina, Helen Kamajirr, Daisygal and Mona Gananggula.

School Notes (cont) - Vernacular Teaching.

A press comment stating "a teacher can be given a crash course in a tribal language..... in three or four weeks and he would then have a vocabulary of some 1,000 words, and be in a position to take primary level classes" has given concern to some European parents and initial surprise to a number of teachers. The implication appeared to be that European teachers will learn the Aboriginal language and teach the Aboriginal and the few European children in the vernacular.

Paragraph one of the Prime Ministers Press Statement of 14th Dec stated that "The Federal Government will launch a campaign to have Aboriginal children living in distinctive Aboriginal communities given their primary education in Aboriginal languages". Professor Elkin (Sydney Morning Herald 15th December) "welcomed the scheme as a 'bright spot' so long as Aboriginal teachers were used". And this is where the emphasis lies, namely that in a place such as Maningrida our Aboriginal teachers or teaching officers will be the ones to teach in the vernacular. In consultation with the noted educationist Dr Betty Watts, our Inspector of Schools (Mr Bill McGrath) and a Canberra educationist (Mr Jim Tandy) it becomes evident that vernacular teaching will probably be most effective in the pre-school and the first three years of the primary school.

Naturally enough with such a relatively new scheme to be implemented 'no timetable has been set for the introduction of the scheme' Special consideration would be given to the few European children attending our schools. It is unlikely that implementation at Maningrida would occur until about 1975 or 1976.

Meanwhile the Aboriginal residents at Maningrida have been asked to give serious thought to the matter and firstly to say whether they want teaching in the vernacular and if so which of the languages they would like to be used.

Let us give the Aboriginal people at Maningrida every encouragement to consider the vital issues in this matter and where possible to fully participate and show self determination in such a personal venture.

Ten Years Ago: (from old school diaries)

A good start to this week, with the routine speeding up and the instruction becoming quite definite, which under the circumstances of 4 teachers working in the open is very commendable.

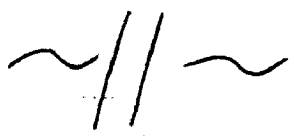
We located another machine (sewing) so the teachers put in an hour each hemming nagas for tomorrow.



Bob Stutchbury Reports:

Many people like throwing endless questions at children. One such person was questioning Ben on his trip to Manly and back on the Hydro-foil. After countless "What did you see's" and what's that's Ben was getting rather tired of the interrogation and when asked "Where is the Opera House" he ended it all with a superb "South of Sydney Harbour". Full marks, Ben.

Progress Assn:



A meeting will be held at Maningrida shortly to discuss future mining activities in the areas in which the Assn. has an interest. Representatives of Ocean Resources, Canadian Superior, Goulburn Is. and others will attend. There is intense interest in these areas and next Dry there will be a large increase in the amount of exploration work carried out.
from G.B.

DUTY SISTER: Sister Maija.

DUTY OFFICER: Grant Steele esq.

Star Theatre

///-///

FRIDAY: "They Call me Trinity" Funny Western with lots of full business. (BRING YOUR \$1.00)

SATURDAY: "Not With My Wife You Don't." Tony Curtis.

SOBSCRIPTION \$4.42 Due

Church:

SUNDAY: 9.45a.m. Sunday Schools
7.15p.m. Evening Service

TUESDAY: 5.30p.m. Prayer Fellowship
7.00p.m. Choir Practice

Parents & Friends:

The February Meeting of The Parents & Friends Association will be held in the Resources Centre this WED. Evening, 7.30. New people of Maningrida are particularly requested to come along and help us spend all our money.

People:

From a letter from a craft customers in W.A. Ray & Melva Buzza (former teachers here) are expecting a transfer soon from Bunbury to Perth.

In a letter from Bapa Armstrong - "Yesterday afternoon Graham McKay and ourselves went out to say hullo to Gordon Sweeney. I asked him if he would leave the map which he made of his travels in 1939 to the (Maningrida) Museum in embryo and he agreed." Roslyn & John have started school in Woodville (Adelaide) and seem to enjoy it."

Danny Poillard one of our former honoured residents and renown kitchen supervisor paid us a short visit this week.

Mrs Ces Carey left for Melbourne yesterday to chase that little round fellar round. Both are expected back about mid April. They will spend most of there time on the Mornington Peninsular.

Mr. Bob Cross will, also fly off to Melbourne to join Heather this week and will stay with Heathers folks to await the arrival of No. 2.

Cricket:

~//~
SECOND MAIN MATCH OF THE SEASON.

AT THE M.C.G. --- PLAY COMMENCES 1.45p.m. SHARP --- SATURDAY NEXT.

BOB CROSS	-----	<u>TEAMS</u>	-----	FRED LUFF
ROD SEYMOUR	-----	captains	-----	RON BERRYMAN
TERRY CANNING				RUSS DAVIES
MOSESE LATU				MERV MASON
PHIL PHENNESY				NOEL PERKINS
DINO CALLAGHAN				JOHN QUELCH
JIM PICKERSGILL				DON JOHNSON
A. PAYNE				EDDY WEBBER
BERT (the wreck.r) RYAN				JOHN RIBSTER
JOHN CALLAGHAN				SMILEY HANNING
ROBERT ROBERTS				DAN CALLAGHAN
HARRY COX				ROGER (shuffles) PINK
LANCE JONES				MERV RYDER
DAN GILLESPIE				PHIL DREW

Two independant umpires required-- we hope Bob Stutchbury with his injured arm may be one of them. Spectators welcome and a great afternoon's entertainment guaranteed,

///-///

P.S. Anyone not mentioned please turn up & you will be assured of a game.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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