

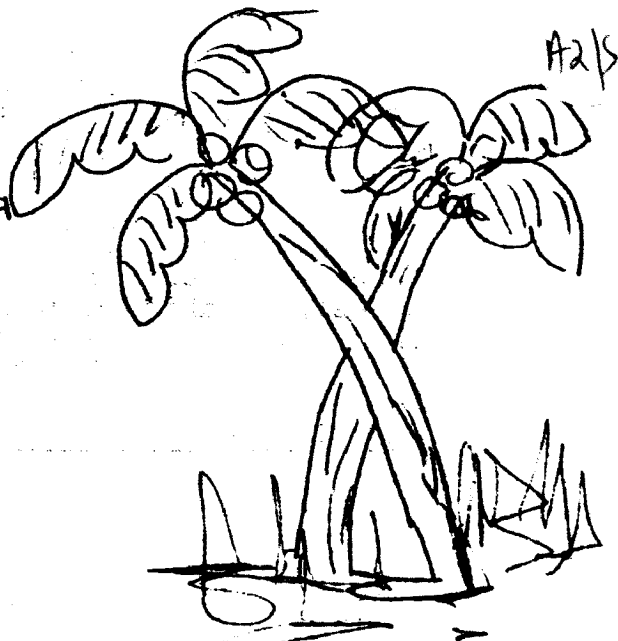
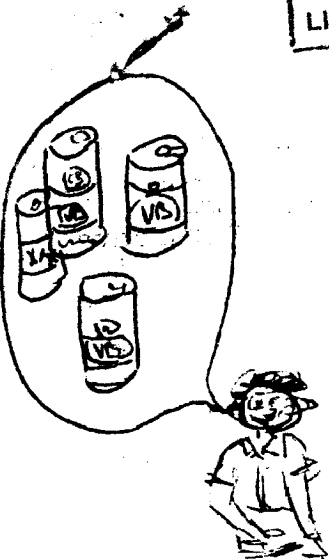
17 JUL 1974

Maningrida

Mirage

Volume: 182

20-4-73



Precis of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Maningrida
16/4/'73.

Present 15 Councillors, 1 visitor.

The Meeting was led by Mr. Billy Yiriryin. He was helped by Mr. Tom Yibberal, the old President.

Mr. Yiriryin told the meeting about another meeting that had happened the day before - on Sunday. At the Sunday meeting men from every tribe had come. The meeting had made up their minds about these new things :

1. In future, all Council Meetings would be called up by the Gunavidji tribesmen and Councillors from all the other tribes would come.
2. Because of this thinking the old President, Tom Ibberal and the old Vice-President John Baleiya left their places on the Council. There was no Secretary on the old Council.
3. These new people were picked by the meeting on Sunday to take the leaders' jobs in the Council -

President : Mr. Bill Yiriryin;
Vice President : Mr. Willie Jarrkala
Secretary : Mr. Peter Bundu-Bundu

4. From now on the Council would have 2 meetings every week, at 5.30 p.m., Mondays and Thursdays, in the library.
5. The old President, Mr. Ibberal, said it was time he handed over the job to someone else. He had been in it for a long time. It was the right thing that Gunavidji people should lead the Council and he would help the new leaders to learn their jobs.

NEW BUSINESS - BEER

The President said that since the Liquor Enquiry had been here some people were pushing for 4 cans of beer a day in the beer club. Councillor Ibberal said the Council should make a decision about this but they should think about these things:

- (a) The club was run informally and if there was any trouble from extra beer it could easily be closed down.
- (b) Money worries. If a man had an extra can every day his ticket for 2 weeks would be \$15.00. This could be bad for other things he needed money for.
- (c) If there was trouble now, it might make a bad story for the club if it tried to get a licence under some new Government drinking laws.

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Notes

The Council talked for a long time about these stories. Some people said that the Council should try to control people who couldn't take extra beer and see if they could fix trouble, before they called the police.

The biggest thinking was that 4 cans every day would not be a good idea for the whole Maningrida people because of money troubles and people troubles. Councillor Yibberal suggested making a start with 4 cans on Fridays and Saturdays and look hard at what happened. Everybody talked about this and at the end said it was a good idea.

This is the new law the Council made

On Fridays and Saturdays there will be 4 cans of beer starting straight away. A ticket will cost \$12.75. Members from each tribe will have the job of looking at their own tribesmen to watch for trouble.

Next Meeting Thursday at 5.30 p.m.

Meeting finished at 7.00 p.m.

Interesting and important things done
in the School Library

About a fortnight ago I returned home and I was real happy to see my sister Nancy Clarke, relatives and friends.

While in Batchelor I worked there as a Handy Man for about 2½ months. I also waited for my new job with the C.S.I.R.O. Wild Life Research near Berrimah area. I waited and waited until I became tired so I decided to come home.



At the moment I am working in the Library, Resource Centre with Mrs. Inglis, and doing a lot of research on certain bark paintings which are interesting and will be very interesting for our visitors and friends of Maningrida.

Lately Paddy Fordham helped me and he told me about Mandarrg's painting and most of his dreamings that he paints on bark paintings.

The ex-President Mr. Tom Yibberal talked about the good life that the old people had while living in the bush and learnt the real aboriginal customs and know the ceremonies well. In one part he said it would be good if the young people looked back and saw their relatives as the elders. They are the ones that looked after us and cared for us young people until the township was built. It's good to go to school but always look back and where you came from is the first place, and help one another



I hope many of the people I know of come to the Library Museum Centre and help me to develop more good ideas. Example, telling a Dreamtime story for the children at school will listen and learn. Any person that is interested they can talk in their own language.

I'm in the Library, Museum Resource Centre, and ask any person, old fellow, middle age and young people that had experience, and I will kindly appreciate if the young ones spread the news around.

Barney Winunguj

Editorial

Tommy Ibbberal has been the President of the Council for a long time. In that time a lot of things have changed and a lot of things have happened. Maningrida has grown bigger - much bigger than when Tommy first became President. Maningrida

(continued page 2)

has changed from being a small place with not many things happening to a big place with a lot of things going on and a lot of new ideas. I myself can stand on a road that I saw as bush and see houses on both sides. Some Aboriginal people say "Big city - like Darwin."

These times have been hard for many people. It has been very hard for Tommy to try to be a leader in these times of fast change. It was even harder for him when we think that he was trying to be a leader of many tribes - when we know that even now it is hard for the tribesmen of different languages to come together to talk about troubles and problems. It was not many years ago that some of the different tribes had hard words and fighting with each other.

For these reasons I say "Good job Tommy Ibberal. You did your best with a hard problem."

For the new idea of the Gunavidji men leading the Council, we can only say that this is an Aboriginal way of trying to fix up an Aboriginal problem. Maybe it will work, maybe it won't, but it is your idea and you must try it out.

To President Yiriryin the Mirage says "Good luck and success with your job."

Dan Gillespie

Jinang and Wulaki troubles

Last Saturday night after the pictures all us Jinang and Wulaki people had a big argument about women. Peter Banjuljul had made trouble because he hit Isabel, so her husband Charlie Jarabili got angry and started talking against me and my brothers. Then I got wild and started yelling back at him.

I said to him, "Charlie, I'm not afraid of you. I'M trying to work for both laws, Balanda and Aboriginal, which is what we have to do here; but you're telling me that I'm the one who is teaching the young people to humbug all the time, and to forget about the aboriginal laws. This is rubbish."

Old doctor man Ray Baku, and his two daughters, Margaret Larratjbi and Brigette Jingardarr, all agreed with Charlie Jarabili, and they all wanted to fight. Don Gundinga and George Nulunba (my brother-in-law) came on my side. George threw a shovel-nosed spear at Ray Baku, but he missed. After that they all said we better stop, or else there will be big trouble.

Then I talked with Charlie Jarabili, and I told him that it was really his fault, because he should make his wives stop humbugging because they have been running after the young men

Then I decided that if my people were against me, then I would have nothing to do with them. I would rather live Balanda way, because there is not so much trouble. So the first thing I did was to divorce my wife, and send her back to her family. From now on I would like to live in a way that if I do wrong then I get into trouble, and if I do right then nothing happens. But up till now I've been doing nothing and still getting into trouble for it.

Also I think I will not write for the Mirage any more because I have been writing to try to help both Balanda and aborigines to understand each other, but it didn't do any good so I will give up. I am dead to the Jinang and Wulaki people, and the Jinang and Wulaki people are dead to the rest of the world.

Jack Miritji



about Jimang and Wulaki troubles

We hope that these troubles can be fixed up by ungalalia thinking and talking. We also hope that Jack will write again for the Mirage. It is important for Aboriginal people to try to write their ideas for other people to read. editor.

Forestry notes

FISHING. The Forestry clerk caught a 56lb. (gutted) turrum. Unfortunately no N.T. record can be claimed owing to unreliable witnesses.

The very old and tattered diary mentioned in the previous Mirage is now being deciphered. The first 14 pages are somewhat illegible but the National Archives are very excited following the use of a special infra-red photographic technique. We expect to receive more news after Easter. The National Archives has requested information as to how the diary may have arrived at the Forestry Office. Please inform us if you have any ideas.

The Forestry clerk admits to an unaccountably missing 46lb. of cement-ungutted.

Merv. Mason is due back soon.

Due to the breakdown of our grader for the last 3 weeks, some of the roads are getting a bit rough and with the backlog of grading work may take a few weeks to remedy.

A story from Lalagajirripa

Council meeting at Kopanga-land rights David said: Do your people want going to mixte with black & white. Or Government will take over and can work for him.

Is it that the way your want Frank said. No (we) wont let get this land in my (mine) I think-my father and my brother-in-law, they came from here. Well this is what I'm here for.

I want to stay here until I die--for this land.

Jacky Carera said yes we can hold it tight. We can stand here for this land.

David Mirawana.

The Mirage is pleased to print a story from the people at Lalagajirripa. We hope that there will be more.-- editor.

Lost and Found

FOUND. One 10" shifting spanner. Owners apply to the Forestry office & claim same by identifying marks thereon.

The poor man's mobile work force

Rusty Steele (of Amphibious Tours Pty. Ltd) and his offsidiers have been very busy this week constructing a new barge landing which looks very impressive. Some good barra are already flocking to the scene. Rusty now intends to make a good landing at Anderabaikada, downstream from the Cadell Gardens.

Movies ;

Saturday

"The Skin Game"

Basketball

GOOD LUCK TO OUR BASKETBALLERS GOING TO DARWIN TO BATTLE WITH THE GIANTS.

Whether -- or not

Next week we will try to reinstitute our weather information in the Mirage and also give you some information on the tides to help your fishing along

Red Cross Appeal

The door-knock appeal for the Red Cross a couple of weeks back brought in \$142. Mr Greeves, the Red Cross general secretary, passes on his thanks for the generous donations, and we say well done Sister Lee.

News from "roundabout"

This week Tom Noidina came to Guyun. He had walked from Da-kala-jirrin in the Stone Country where old man Mandarrg is camped with his big family. Tom came to Maningrida with a letter from David Galbuna, Mandarrg's son. David's letter an order for shotgun cartridges and tobacco for the people down there. Tom got the goods and headed south for a 35-mile walk.

The people at Lalagajirripa (ana-gata-wana) have pooled their money to buy a boat. They have raised \$1800. They are going to ask the Government for another \$650 to help them. The boat will be called 'Wilir.'

These people will be going to Goulburn Island for a meeting about land rights - Tommy Ibberal, Ray Munyal, Joseph Mungudja, Paddy Fordham, Peter Gangalara; and from Lalagajirripa (ana-gatja-wana): Big Barney Geridawanga, Jacky Gurayara, David Mirawana. These people will be going south to the National Aboriginal Conference on land rights in Sydney - Jimmy Biriya, Jack Riala, Ray Munyal, Paddy Fordham, Billy Yiriyin, Tom Ibberal; and from Lalagajirripa - Big Barney Geridawanga.

Gordon Sweeney School Notes

Easter Holidays for school are from Friday 20th to Wednesday 25th. The Tuesday 24th is a holiday for school only. The annual swimming carnival will be held on Friday 27th at Tomkinson Hole for the Infants and on Monday 30th April for the senior children at Dakaladorna. Visitors will be welcome on both occasions.

Church Notes

Easter Communion service will be held at 9.30 am on Good Friday in the church. I plan to preach on the subject 'Saving From Death', and then on the Sunday night on the subject 'Power of Resurrection.' If you are unable to share in these important occasions because of ill-health or any other reasons, we hope you can still be with us in prayer and spirit, as we will with you. We know you will enjoy these special services and gain inspiration from them. We look forward to sharing together in both the blessings and challenge of the Easter Weekend and its significant. Please feel free to invite friends to come along with you. Sunday school will be the same classes as last week except slightly changes because of teachers being away during Easter Weekend. Countryman visitor: Rev Lazarus Lamilami spends his 10 days holidays here staying with the Roberts. We are really enjoying the fellowships we share with him, especially the old folks in the sampas. Have a good trip to Croker Is. on Thursday, sir, and convey our good wishes to your flock with special regards to your wife and new baby. Church official visitor: The executive Rev G. Symons will visit us next Wednesday. There will be a Barbaque tea in the same evening at 6p.m. at Mr Jack Gardiner's home. Bring your food and drink and join us in the evening before we start the week on Thursday. Any queries on church matters would you like to discuss with the executive officer you may have opportunity to see him before he leaves on the next day. M.L.

At the weekend;

Duty Officer;

Bert Ryan

Duty

Sat - Sun

Mon

Tue

Sister; Gd Friday; Sr Lee

Mr Mark

Sr Betty

Sr Mailla

Land Rights Commission

Mr. Justice Woodward, Commissioner for the Enquiry into Aboriginal Land

Rights, with his party including Dr. Nicholas Peterson, anthropological adviser, the Secretary to the Commissioner Miss. D.D. Goodman and a shorthand (writer, probably female) will be visiting Maningrida on 11-12/6/73.

Would any kind person who could provide accomodation for one of the abovenamed please contact J. Hunter at their convenience.

SPORT

(Next week we will have a report from sportsman Bob after his visit to Sin City - he will report on B'ball Darwin Style of the Tannie Bay Easter Handicap for Grass Fed Batters, Kickers & Bleeders.)

A BOWLERS WICKET AT THE M.C.G.

It was definately a bowlers wicket at the M.C.G. on Saturday. Only one batsman Bob Cross, came out on top of the bowling, scoring 46.

I am not game enough to print the result except to say that it was a very close game and it climaxed in a tense finish.

The two captains placed their fielders well during the game and some of us are starting to learn where "silly mid on", "point" and "in the covers" are.

NAVY LANDING HIT TOP FORM

In the first boys basketball game on Tuesday night Navy Landing had another very good win, beating Djunewunya 44 to 40. Navy Landing played very good team basketball and they always led the other team. In the second game Junction Bay were too strong for Kopanga, and won 42 to 24.

The competition points now are Junction Bay 11, Kopanga 10, Djunewunya 10 and Navy Landing 5.

Next Tuesday night is semi-finals night.

- 1st. game Djunewunya play Navy Landing
- 2nd. game Junction Bay play Kopanga.

GIRLS SEMI-FINALS

The girls basketball semi-finals are on next Thursday night. Here is the draw. 1st game Guyon play Entrance Island. 2nd game Kopanga play Bamboo Creek.

HEAD OF THE HARBOUR

An across the harbour dug-out canoe race is being organised as part of this years Darwin Festival. Canoes are to be of a traditional type with no things such as tin in the construction. The canoes can be powered by sail and/or paddles and they must have a crew of 4 or more Aboriginal people. Go to it yachtsmen of the north.

Parents and Friends

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given of the ANNUAL meeting of the MANINGRIDA PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION INC. to be held att the school on THURSDAY 26TH APRIL. Business will include election of a new committee. In order for the Association to be eligible for grants from such bodies as the Aboriginal Benefits Trust Fund it will be necessary for the Associations committee to be all-aboriginal, and to have a clause in the constitution excluding Europeans from the executive. Discussiona on the change of any part of the constitution will take place at this meeting. It may be decided to set up a European Advisory Group.

In respect of the election of the new executive, youare asked to forward your nominations to the Secretary as soon as possible. The six positions of

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Vice-Secretary
- Treasurer
- Vice-Treasurer

will have to be elected that night.

In your nomination, please use the form set out below:-

We, the undersigned members of the Parents & Friends Association, hereby noninate

MR

MRS.....on the terms of the constitution

MISS

for the Association, to be eligble for election to the office of

.....

Proposed.....

Seconded.....

Date / /73

John A. Gardiner, Sect.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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