

A.I.A.S.  
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# MANINGRIDA

## MIRAGE

Vol. 60

### School

57 children are expected to come up to the School from the Pre-School next year, and the big problem will be: "Many children, but not enough classrooms". Maybe under tree No.1 and tree No.2.

Following the successful interschool sports of last week, the teachers have made some recommendations:

- (1) That the sports be held during the last week of the first term, in May, of next year.
- (2) A shield for the outright winner (as this year) and another shield given on a handicap basis, so that the small schools will have a chance of winning.

#### C O U N C I L

23.11.1970

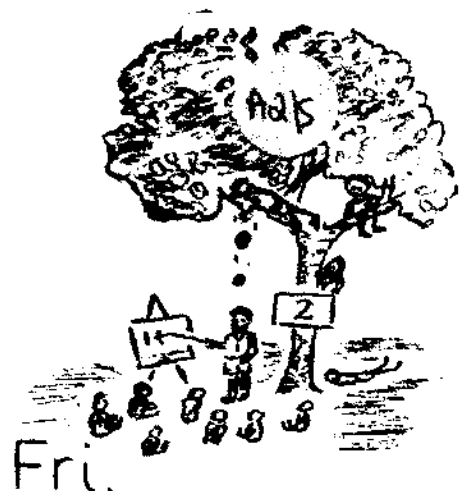
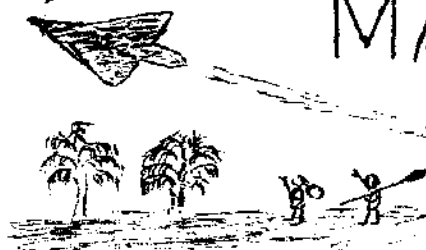
9 councillors present.

- (1) John Balenja asked for 4 cans of beer for Christmas. Answer: NO.
- (2) Jack Riala: There are too many things to spend money on; shop, beer, Hasty-Tasty, movies, kitchen. People are getting mixed-up. Not enough money.
- (3) There was a general discussion on economic practises, business budgeting, etc.
- (4) \$205.00 have been raised so far towards Christmas.
- (5) Jack Riala: We only want good balandas here, not mad ones. We want black children, not half castes.
- (6) There was a discussion on parental responsibilities, discipline of children, etc. The Aboriginal way was different to the European. Europeans start to control their children when they are very young. Aborigines should do this too.
- (7) Ray Munyal: Still no power and light and water to houses. President to write another letter to Mr. Giese.
- (8) The councillors had done a good job when visiting children were at Maningrida. It showed that they were getting strong. They set a good example for the visitors to take notice of.
- (9) Free beer for Christmas was asked for. Answer: NO.
- (10) There was a brief discussion about Andrew Madaduba and Jimmy Olsen.

The Superintendent said that there could only be one straight law;

- (1) No girl under 16 could be given in marriage;
- (2) Any promised girl who did not want her promise had to be protected.

Meeting closed 7.30 p.m.



# Maningrida Housing Assoc.

Mr. Nixon has sent a letter to say that the Housing Trust should officially be called "Maningrida Housing Association". It will now be possible to ask a lawyer to go ahead with the "incorporation" of the M.H.A.

An application has already been received from one very well qualified builder in answer to the advertisement in last Saturday's paper.

## "Marnba"

The big outboard motor has come back and we expect that Capt. Roy Rewa will soon be bringing in some good hauls of fish again.

A drum of petrol without 60 cents (roughly) worth of oil in it resulted in a broken motor which cost \$640.00 to repair.

Mr. Doug Gamble from the General Management of Peat Marwick & Mitchell came yesterday to fix up the final papers for the liquidation of the Maningrida Co-op. (now Progress Association Inc.)

The Department of Labour and National Service have accepted Miss Alice Gunwarbi as a trainee shop assistant. They agree to pay one quarter of her wages for a year, while she is receiving training to work in the shop.

## FORESTRY

Messrs. John Reister and John Delaney will leave on Monday morning in a Landrover to escort a new man driving the grader which has been working at Murganella, from Oenpelli to Maningrida (if the ~~xxx~~ river crossings are O.K.)

Mr. Frank McCabe, acting Supervisor while Eric was on holidays, has returned to Darwin and is expected to relieve Mr. John Zabo at Snake Bay while he goes on leave.

Six men are continuing to poison trees (of no value) in the forest.

If the rain continues, the planting out of cypress seedlings will begin very soon.

### From the Newspapers

Garage on Grooto. An Aboriginal man on Grooto Eylandt has started a garage for himself. He will fix up cars and motors belonging to Aboriginal people and balandas. Soon he says he will start to sell Petrol and oil like a garage in Darwin would.

NAKARA - A new part of Darwin where houses and shops will be built will be called Nakara. It is near the part of Darwin called Alawa. There will be a new school at Nakara and space for 600 houses.

Jets over Maningrida. Last week Friday a big jet plane flew high over Maningrida heading towards Goulburn and on Tuesday a small jet flew low over from Milingimbi way. These planes are all in Darwin because the Airforce is training their pilots in case there is a war. They are pretending there is a fight on so they will know what to do when a real fight happens.

The Dust. Last week when all the American people were here the air looked all smoky. This was really dust. The dust had been blown up to Maningrida in the wind. The dust came from way down in the desert country.

# Softball.

"The Match ... on the Patch"

Last Saturday we didn't have our usual competition, instead we had a match against some visiting girls from Elcho Island and Milingimbi.

The first game consisted of most of our Swallows team plus a few extras, and the final result was very close, being 6 - 5.

The second game starred some of our Herons, but the competition wasn't very strong and the result there was 10 - 4.

Next Saturday we are back to normal,

Swallows play Magpies

Leopards play Herons.

Thanks to Frank Smith for umpiring and cordial, and to all others who lent a hand.

Dave Fryer.

# Basketball

Oysters v. Gorillas. Oysters, who played a very stylish game last week, were very disorganized this week. In the first half their passing and teamwork were way off and little Jimmy M. and Sam from Gorillas took all these opportunities. Scores were closed throughout the game and Oysters were lucky to come through with their record intact.

Final score: Oysters 28 - Gorillas: 24.

Best and Fairest: 3 points Charlie G. (Oysters)  
2 points Larry W. (Oysters)  
1 point Jimmy M. (Gorillas)

Demons v. Cadell. This was a good game with none of the silly business that both these teams put on at times. Both sides kept their minds on the basketball. Billy from Cadell was the outstanding player - he worked hard and landed some excellent shots. Though the game was close in the first half, Demons were not in any danger in the second half.

Final Score: Demons 32 - Cadell 24.

Best and Fairest: 3 points Billy (Cadell)  
2 points Dick B. Smith (Demons)  
1 point Jimmy Madarma (Cadell)

Crocodiles v. Chalkies. Those splendid stalwarts Chalkies, fighting to regain the premiership lead, which they held after winning the first game of the season on a forfeit, put up another splendid display. In the first half Crocodiles kept throwing the ball away and Chalkies landing about one goal in eight attempts took the lead. But for all Chalkies missed goals, many of them easy ones, the final tab may have been different.

Final Score: Crocodiles 32 - Chalkies 30.

Best and Fairest: 3 points (Kevin M. ) Crocodiles)  
2 points Mickey (Chalkies)  
1 point Alfie (Chalkies)

Next Week. (?)

Dolphins v Cadell  
Chalkies v Gorillas  
Oysters v Crocodiles.

Today Friday the annual School Swimming sports are being held at the Du Galadorna Pool.

## THE BIRD WATCHER

Mistletoe Bird. This is a small bird. The male bird has a beautiful red breast and a dark bluey-black back, and has often been seen in bushes around Maningrida recently. The female bird has plain greeny-grey feathers. The mistletoe bird eats some insects but its main food is said to be the smaller mistletoe berries. It has a sharp call like "wita, wita". Has anyone heard its pretty warbling song?



Mr. Cayley says that it has a very neat pear-shaped nest with a slit in the side which hangs from the thin branch of a leafy tree.

### Correction from November 13th:

The Jitjaiti Dr. Don Jacobs tells us this is not the brown hawk but the fork-tailed kite. The brown hawk sits up in a tree or on telephone wires and watches for his food; but the fork-tailed kite is the one which circles around, especially when grass is burning.

The brown hawk also has a black mark down the side of his face - (like a cheetah).

tail of the brown hawk

tail of the fork-tailed kite



### Maningrida Pets.

Some years ago the smoke of a fire went curling upwards from the other side of the river, and a canoe went across to pick up the party of people who had walked overland from Oenpelli. Shortly after, there was a remarkable sight in the settlement. A little black pig, surrounded by about 10 friendly dogs, came trotting up from the beach with a group of people. With regular feeding and care he gradually grew until he became a big black pig and maybe he talks "Rembarranga - Gunwinggu - mixed" now. The great pity is that he is a single pig. If he had a mate there may have been many little pigs everywhere now.

Back in 1963, there was only one cat. He belonged to some Gunavidji people and probably came from Goulburn Island. Now there are many cats and some quite big families (almost flocks) of cats.

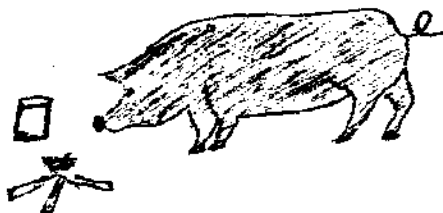
The best known pet, of course, is Dick Nagabui's brolga. This majestic gentleman goes wherever he wishes - into the garage to see the mechanics, to the hospital, and this week he paid his first visit to the store where Joe fed him with bread. He has been known to take up his place on the road and bring a funeral procession to a halt while he leisurely took his time to stroll away. Recently when the American visitors were here he kept circling around high in the sky, just to keep an eye on things.

Then there is the emu, who lives with his Rembarranga friends. He is quite at home in the settlement and doesn't mind a holiday in the bush occasionally.

Other pets include Magpie geese (3 at one stage), a little kangaroo, fowls and bantams.

Last of all, there is the gula gula - that creature who noses into all kinds of places and is regarded with love-hate. This pet/pest is the dog.

The newest pet is a small possum who enjoys riding about on people's heads. Terry and Betty Wanduk brought him home from Snake Bay recently.



MANINGRIDA POST OFFICE



Between Nov. 1st and Nov. 24th a grand total of 3,888 letters, newspapers, etc. and parcels have been handled at Maningrida.

1,073 items posted.      2,635 received.      180 re-despatched.

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WEEKEND      WEEKEND  
DUTIES:

Duty Officer:      Mr. Bert Ryan  
Duty Sister:      Sister Helen Miller  
Nightwatchman:      Mr. England Mangurinyin  
Fire Control:

STAR THEATRE:

Fri. "It Happened at the World's Fair"  
featuring well-known Shakespearean actor,  
Elvis Presley.  
Sat. "Carry On Cabby" - English comedy about  
taxi-drivers.

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CHURCH:

First Sunday in Advent.  
9.30 a.m. Sunday School  
7.30 p.m. Evening Service  
Thurs. 7.30 p.m. Fellowship.

The word Advent means "come to" or "arrive". In this month before Christmas each year the Church remembers how people in old times (prophets) looked forward to the coming of Jesus and how John the Baptist, Mary and others made ready for his coming.

We also look forward to the "coming again" of Jesus in the future. We read the New Testament passages which tell of the Master's promises "You will see the Son of Man coming ..... with power and great glory."

So we should not grow careless, but patiently walk in the Christian Way and do our work properly.

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RAINFALL:      Mon. 32 pts.      Wed. 13 pts.      Thurs. 22 pts.

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PEOPLE:

Mr. Dan Pollard reports that Jacky Adjarral and Jimmy Nymanyumu went to Snake Bay to work in the kitchen for a few weeks and have shown marked improvement. They are showing a greater degree of initiative and are thinking ahead to what has to be done next.

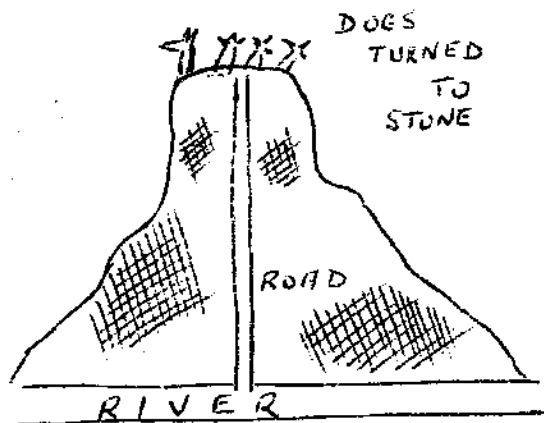
A group of people came over from Mangalala this week, to stay with the Jinang people. One young single man, who has a couple stay-in his house said jokingly to a guest "You will have to pay to stay in this house". So the guest took him seriously, and came to light with \$2.

For the Ex-Maningrida -ites.

The Wet season has started early this year. We have had some good showers of rain and the ground is now covered in a rich carpet of green grass.

Although many think that the Pre-Wet has been much less trying than usual, there have been the usual number of fights in the village.

The poinciana and the 'Yellow Shower' trees seem to have had more flowers than usually, and these have added a dash of colour to the Settlement.



### ABORIGINAL STORY

The dogs came up out of the water of the river at Murwangi (Arafura Swamp) and went up on to the mountain called JALKORIMIRRI (same like at Nimbuwa near Oenpelli).

Up on top of the mountain they turned themselves into stone, but when they came out from the water they were properly dogs. Then the dogs walked between men. They started to cry. That means that they tell the people where they come from. So when the sun comes up early in the morning the dogs start crying too.

Drawing and story by George Garawun - Teaching Assistant.

George's father, the late Charlie Rangutja, used to be a good artist and some of his work is in Canberra.

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### ABORIGINAL WAY OF MARRIAGE.

By J. Miritji.

Men and women used to have tribal union marriage. After many years had passed, the men became very old and died. Then the wives had a second tribal marriage to the brothers of the first husband.

They used to be given in marriage by the tribal parents - three or five wives. That was when they had plenty of space to live in and hunted for yams, lily roots, sugar bag, kangaroo, fish, goannas, palms, bandicoots, turtles, blood potatoes and many other things. They could give so much (food) to their parents and to their families to keep them well and strong.

The old women had no husbands to look after them when their children had grown up and had gone away to work and to marry (in other places). But today the Government looks after the old women with the widows' and the old age pensions.

But why do they look for new husbands again, while they are the widows and getting a lot of money from the Government? Especially people of Maningrida.

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### A TRICKY ONE

A woman whose husband dies, is a widow?

A man whose wife has died is a widower? Right?

What about a man with 3 wives and his first wife has died? What is he?

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Taken from "Baru Dhakal Dhawumirri "

This morning (Fri. 25th) 36 Milingimbi school children were due to board a Fokker Friendship plane and fly to Maitland in N.S.W.

During the next two weeks they will go to school each morning with the Maitland boys and girls, but they will then go to visit different places such as farms, factories, ship building yards and places such as Libraries, Council and Court buildings.

The aeroplane cost is \$6,500. The people of Milingimbi helped to raise \$5,000.

**Maningrida Mirage**

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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