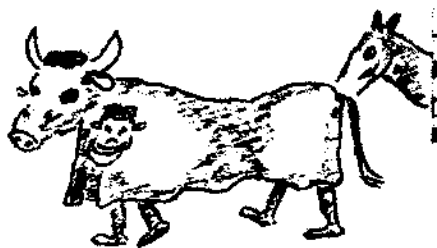


MANINGRIDA MIRAGE



Vol. 63

Fri. Dec. 18th 1970.

The Exams are over

The End of the year concert at the Gordon Sweeney School was a time of happy singing, acting, and colourful dressing up. Forty-two boys and girls received prizes which were presented by Mr. Strand and Mr. Wilders.

Headmaster's Report.

These are some parts of Mr. Williams' speech:

"Each year the school grows and gets better. I have been at Maningrida for 5 years. Then there were only 8 teachers and 180 children. Next year there will be 17 teachers and over 400 children.

Organization. We have gradually increased the number of children covering the South Australian course (same as in other schools in the Northern Territory) to 60 %. Next year all the infants' classes will work from the Sth. Austr. course in Maths and reading.

The first year post primary group will move into their third year when more emphasis will be placed on academic subjects, especially English and Maths. I hope that most of the boys will then be able to go to Darwin for pre-apprenticeship courses and that some girls can commence as office trainees.

Sport. 1970 was the best year ever for sport. The House Shield was won by Murrumbidgee. I would like to thank Mr. Fryer for the excellent job he did as Sportsmaster. A team of boys competed in the Darwin Games this year and broke the record in the 4 x 100 Relay. Two boys travelled to Sydney as a result to compete in the Wakehurst Relays and did very well.

Staff: Four new teachers have been posted to this school. Mr. and Mrs. Strand will go to Melbourne where Mr. Strand will learn how to teach deaf children. Mr. Strand will be missed by the school children and also by the people of Maningrida who have known the family for 4 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Fryer are also leaving. Mr. Fryer will go to Kornilda College and Mrs. Fryer will teach at Bagot. None of us will forget the good work these two have done during their 3 years here, especially in the field of sport.

Miss Ilyn is also leaving and will be married. She and her husband plan to live in Canberra.

Parents And Friends. The organisation has raised several thousand dollars, and the money has been used to buy library books, prizes, Bisteddfod, school uniforms and other items.

Excursions. Soon Miss Pullen, Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie and Mr. & Mrs. Phemister will take some children south for a holiday. In 2 weeks Mr. Wilders will go with 26 boys to a Jamboree and the boys will visit Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

Attendance. Every school has problems and worries. The greatest problem at this school is that too many children stay away.

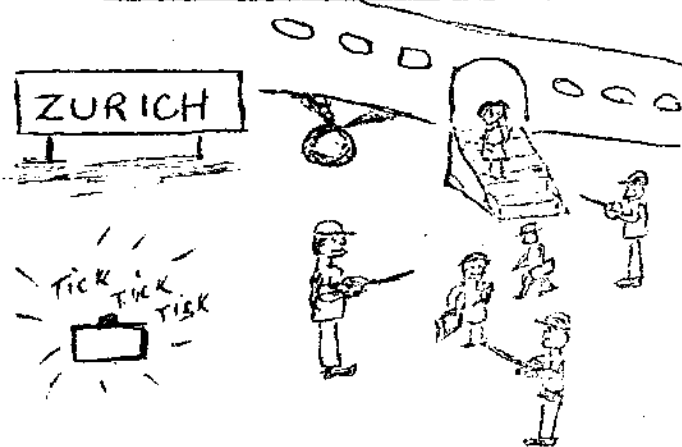
I hope that every child will come every day and it is your job, mothers and fathers, to make them come.

Holidays. People should stay out of the school area during the holidays. I ask all parents to look after their children and to keep them out of trouble.

In conclusion - I want to impress upon you that, although there are many people here who will help you, it is up to you. Maningrida will only grow if you work hard and obey the laws."

From the Mail Bag

From Gislinde Craven in West Germany.



Oliver and I arrived home after quite and exciting and bewildering time at BEIRUT and also ZURICH in Switzerland. At Beirut, where the hi-jacking of planes has been taken place, we were not allowed out of the aircraft when it had landed to refuel for its forward journey to Zurich. An armed guard was placed at the entrance doors to see that no uninvited passengers attempted to board the plane. Three prisoners were escorted to the plane under an armed guard en route for Zurich.

On arrival at Zurich the plane was surrounded by dozens of soldiers each with a loaded machine gun at the ready; it looked like it was wartime once again. Before any passengers were allowed to disembark the three prisoners were marched out first and then we were allowed to proceed to the airport terminal, but under a guard of soldiers menacing us with machine guns.

Firstly, my luggage, handbag and overnight bag were thoroughly searched, and then I was escorted to a special room where, under the watchful eye of a woman police officer, I had to strip off all my clothes. It was most embarrassing and also very frightening. I was wishing that I was back at Maningrida with my husband.

Apparently, the authorities in Switzerland were checking for hidden bombs and guns that might have been smuggled onto the plane. I was finally given the O.K. to leave and board another jet for Frankfurt in Germany. My mother was at Frankfurt to meet Oliver and me and brought some warm clothing for us both, as it was bitterly cold and wet. I am really feeling the cold after coming from Maningrida and am looking forward to coming back soon, although I hope that we are not subjected to all this military business once again.

Maningrida air strip was never like this



Do you remember Sister Marion Holmes?

She is living in Nigeria now and is married to an American geologist. They are buying land on the coast of Spain and plan to live there when they leave Nigeria.

From Merv Mason in Vietnam

Merv writes a word of appreciation for the Mirage and says "it is one of the few links with our old life in Australia".

Shirley (Merv's wife) is staying with Nicky (Mason) in Brisbane. They are both well.

From Sister Sandra in Melbourne.

The news about Aborigines down here is practically nil, though I continue to find a lot of genuine interest in the situation up north. My day was cheered the other day when I was heading

- (contin.)-

nose down, tail up, through the crowds of Flinders Street Station. Happened to glance at a show case on the wall of a tunnell, or something and saw a display from "The Sea Shell", featuring a couple of barks. I became very excited and informed the person next to me that he was looking at a Balapindi and a Magani. I don't think he fully grasped the situation at all and gave me a most peculiar look, - but he was no doubt a local and you have to make allowances for Melbournians!



BIRTH Mabel Mumbingu and Don Gundinga have a boy, born prematurely in Darwin. Name not known, but head measurement recorded.

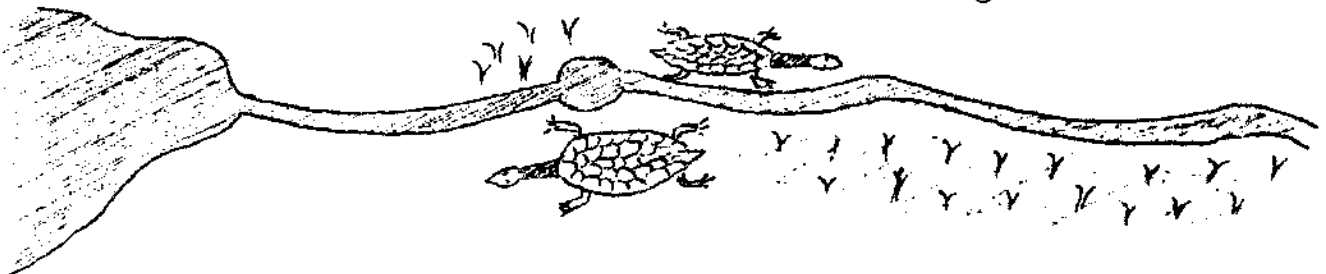
BARBECUE at the single men's quarters - on Friday night (tonight) The hosts are the two Bills and one Bert. Refreshments provided - All welcome.

The turtle came up from the bottom of a billabong and made himself a hole. After that he made himself into true turtle. When women go into the water they start talking to the turtle - telling him to make more and more turtles. - So they will pick up the turtles (by feeling in the mud with their toes) quickly.

Along the river was a big jungle where all the people were living. It was close to the drinking water. It was called WARGA.

This place is company for us, - my father, and Dick Bandalil and I.

George Garawan.



FORESTRY

The Grader returned last Monday from Murganella and will soon be back on the road. An operator for it, Mr. Dave Hill, will arrive on Friday (today).

Our brand-new Foreman, Eric Henderson, left last Tuesday for N.S.W. to get married. He will return sometime in January and move into Jensen's house. (If he can find a wife.....)

Anyone for a Christmas tree?? Do not rob our forest by butchering it. Contact Forestry for advice and service.

Parents, please keep your children away from machinery, trucks and cars. It costs too much money to replace parts removed by playing children. Also warn your children to stay away from (temporary) empty houses. Jensen's place was broken into recently; someone had slashed the door fly wire with a knife, and gone in. Anyone found to trespass will be under suspicion if anything is damaged or stolen.

Bruce Craven leaves to-day for Adelaide to attend his son's 21st birthday. (He also wants to see how the southern horses are running)

Visitors to Forestry: Mr. Bill Goodwin, former Maningrida Forestry supervisor, now acting Senior Technical Officer, was here for two days' inspection.

R. Hopkins (Hoppy), Foreman mechanic came for 2 days for his monthly inspection of plant and equipment.

E. Quick

From the Newspapers.

A NEW BADGE.

The Northern Territory wants a badge of its own. It might have animals or birds perhaps, like the crocodile and buffalo or something else that reminds people of the North. A prize of \$5000. will be given for the best drawing. Anyone can send one, two or three drawings, but he must make it bigger than 8" by 8", and smaller than 16" by 16". Who will have a try?

OENPELLI HOSPITAL BURNS DOWN

The headmaster of the Oenpelli School told this story. One of the sisters had been using the gas. Something went wrong. The gas came rushing out, shooting flame along the wall. Soon the whole hospital was alight. Beds, blankets, medicines, hospital cards, and equipment were all burnt. We cry for Oenpelli.

LIONEL ROSE - A MARRIED MAN NOW

On Wednesday Lionel married Miss Jenny Oakes in a little Church near Melbourne. He is 22 years old and she is 20 years. Jenny's father, Mr. Frank Oakes, was Lionel's first trainer. A big crowd of people came to see the ceremony.

DARWIN PEOPLE HUNGRY IN 1985?

Mr. Rex Jettner, who knows a lot about growing food, says that not enough land in the Northern Territory is being used to grow food. He wants the Government to help, because in 1985, 147,000 people could be living in the N.T.

WANDERERS WIN !!!

Wanderers, with Raymond Nalor among the best players and he and Frank Nayuk-yuk each kicking a goal, had their first win for season, beating Waratahs 17.9 to 7.12. The Darwin paper said "What a day it was!"

BALANDA PEOPLE WANTING TO HELP ABORIGINES.

Some balandas are sitting down in George St., Sydney and going without food for one day and a night. One of them is Dr. Jim Cairns, a member of Parliament in Canberra.

They are doing this because they believe that Aboriginal people should be given land rights.

PROGRESS ASSOC.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING of the Progress Association Meeting held on Thursday 17th December.

1. Mr. Dan Gillespie was appointed to fill the vacant position on the Committee.
2. Mr. Glen Bagshaw spoke about the meeting at Goulburn Island which he and Tom Yibberal attended on Tuesday, with representatives from Milingimbi, Oenpelli, Goulburn Is. and Croker Is.

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Getting the Christmas "spirit"

It wasn't a dry run last Tuesday night for the four or five men who decided to hold their own Christmas party rather prematurely. After breaking into the No.2 government store and securing a quantity of beer stored therein, they proceeded to hold wassail right at the scene of the crime - they couldn't wait.

A passer-by relayed the news to higher authority whose arrival served to dampen the festive spirit somewhat. Fortunately most of the supplies were recovered. Unfortunately for the persons concerned, their welcome at the Club is worn out for the time being and they fear a visit by the law.

COUNCIL

Councillors held a Christmas get-together on Monday night instead of the usual meeting. Over a plate and a few drinks, they heard a report by President Yibberal and Councillor Riala on the recent combined Councils' conference in Darwin. The permits for visitors, always a matter for concern, were not to be stopped. This was very important to people at Maningrida. The President also reported that the mission people had said that they did not want clubs at their missions. There was some discussion about this.

Mr. Giese had spoken about the Benefits Trust, and how it could help people. Some Maningrida people were interested in starting new things, but they needed more money to start off. There were a lot of good places around Maningrida. Council should encourage people to go out and work them.

J.H.

Basketball.

Finals.

In a very interesting game, which was also the best for the season, the favourites "Oysters" defeated "Dolphins" by 57 to 44. The game is hard to describe, as it was played with both teams really trying and 'properly clean basketball'. But practice and experience counted and so the result was as expected.

Champion Team - Oysters.
Best Club team - Crocodiles.
Best and fairest player - Tim Darcy.
Top point scorer - Tim Darcy (310).

Thank you - to you all you people who helped during the season. Your efforts are appreciated. Special thanks to all the referees who helped during the season. And especially to Jimmy Pascoe and Jimmy Cooper who handled the finals.

F.S.

Yappudaruwa Ceremony



Have you heard a drum beating quickly in the bush late at night? That goanna is running then! All the people in the Rimbarranga-Jinang - Ganardba area sit quietly and make no noise.

Not everyone knows this ceremony. It only came to Maningrida from the South a few years ago and "ick" agani for one says "I dont savvy that one."

DUTIES: Duty Officer:
 Duty Sister: Sister Maija
 Nightwatchman: Peter Gangalava.

Star Theatre: Friday: See the board.
 Notice
 Saturday:

CHURCH:

4th Sunday in Advent

9.30 a.m. Sunday School

7.30 p.m. Evening Service. Preacher Mr. Wally
 Wulaynbuma of Yirrkala.

Thursday, 7.30 p.m. Carol Singing.

Christmas Morning 9 a.m. Service and Nativity
 Play.

If Jesus had been
 born in the stone
 country.
 Dean Y.



Mary was sitting.
 Suddenly
 She looked up!
 An Angel ...
 He said to Mary
 "Mary,
 You have a new baby"

Margaret G.

The Shepherds
 Going to Bethlehem,
 Very happy,
 to Baby Jesus.
 The angels up in the sky
 Shining like the star.

Katy.

Mary and Joseph walking
 Far away to Bethlehem
 To the city.
 The man in the house
 Said
 "Take her to the stable."

Betty W.

The three men
 Saw the baby;
 The three men
 Were singing,
 The Baby Jesus
 Was listening.

Paddy.

Christmas - Country style.

This year will see most Maningrida people "at home". There are, however, some who prefer to remain at their chosen spot; notably the Cadell pensioners and gardeners, now comfortably housed in their new "Pickersgill pre-fabs" (3 of them). Instead of the traditional roast dinner it will be kangaroo and fish for them, supported by some goodies from the store, if the ration truck makes it on Saturday.

Also ensconced in the bush is Wally Mandarrg's family, at Nawalipirr. Wally's children have all been coming to school at Maningrida during the week, and going home on Friday nights. They will now, of course, be going to their parents for the holiday break. Nawalipirr is not too far away and perhaps Father Christmas will be able to make it there on Christmas Day.

Hada returned to Darwin after a few days at Maningrida

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Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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