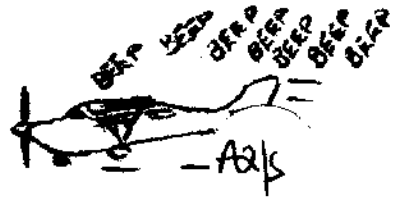


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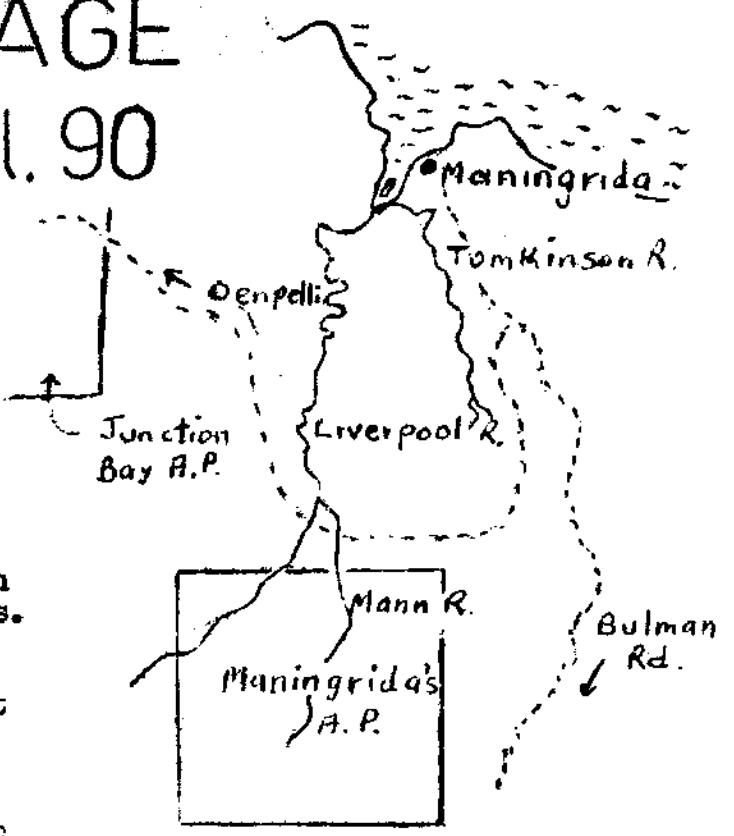
MIRAGE

Friday 25th June Vol. 90

The Search Begins

On Saturday two caravans, a trailer and two panel wagons came of the Fourcroy and parked up near the Cliff House - the present headquarters of the Mining Company. On Monday morning the first two aboriginal men to work with the company, Messrs. Crowfoot Ililnanda and Stephen Gawulgu, were on the job carrying company gear and hosing salt off the vehicles.

Living in Cliff House are the men who will do a lot of the exploration work.



Mr. Brian Purdie, geologist. Brian is a "Kiwi" who comes from the middle of the North Island of New Zealand. He has worked in New Zealand for MacIntyre Mines and has just spent a year in the mineral-rich W.A. With him is his wife, Val, who is chief cook.

Mr. Bill Bates, surveyor from Newcastle - the place where the "Ibis" was built. Bill has worked in Tasmania with MacIntyre looking for the base metals silver, lead and zinc.

Mr. Roger Brooks, mechanic, and also a "Kiwi". He has just come from New Zealand, but has also worked in Tasmania and New Guinea on mining projects.

The work will be carried out in four stages.

A. Flying.

An aeroplane will fly over each prospecting area, going east - west at $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile intervals. In the plane will be an instrument called "Scintillometer" which is like a geiger counter, only much more sensitive and selective. The scintillometer 'picks up' any radio-active particles which are sent out from the rocks below. The minerals potassium (found in granite rock), uranium and thorium send out these particles. The instruments in the aeroplane detect this radio-activity and record the position, which is then marked as an "anomaly" on the map. Was this anomaly uranium or something else? It's the job of the ground survey party to find out. The flying work is expected to be done in 2 weeks and the work on the aerial maps another month.

B. Ground Survey.

Usually only one in 100 "anomalies" turns out to be uranium. The aboriginal men will be able to play an important part in helping to find the "anomalies" on the ground, making tracks into difficult places and generally identifying the country. Some aboriginal men will be taught to use a geiger counter.

During this stage the survey teams will live in the bush in caravans and tents and will move camp as they cover the country.

C. Detailed work on "anomalies".

Having found the anomalies on the ground, any which show promise of uranium or some other mineral will be carefully investigated.

D. Drilling.

The geiger counter or scintillometer cannot measure more than 2' beneath the surface. Where a promising uranium anomaly is found the costly business of drilling begins to find out how much uranium (or any other mineral) is there and whether full-scale mining would be worthwhile.

So far the uranium found in Arnhemland has been at the edge of the stone country - and the Maningrida lease takes in a piece of this edge.

Buying Mining Shares.

FOR MANINGRIDA RESIDENT READERS.

During the past weeks a number of persons have sought advice as to the best means of participating through purchase of shares in the mineral activities with which the Aboriginal Company is associated.

I have been happy to assist in this respect, and hope that participants will be rewarded with the knowledge of their participation in the development of the area as well as financially.

One point should be made clear, I believe that such advice can only be given during the transitional period. That is after negotiations had been finalised, some months ago now, and before active prospecting commences, - expected to be within a couple of weeks, - as one who could have access to relevant reports, and that by in a position of trust, I would neither participate personally nor advise anyone from that date.

For the benefit of recent arrivals to Maningrida, the agreement is three way, (1) The Aboriginal Company (2) Ocean Resources N.L. of Australia (3) MacIntyre Mines - a division of MacIntyre Mines of Canada.

The Aboriginal Company would hold a 20% interest, the other two 40% interest each. It is unlikely that shares will be available in the Aboriginal Company, nor MacIntyre Mines (not available in Australia) but Ocean Resources N.L. shares can be purchased. O.R. is currently prospecting for phosphate off the Tasmanian coast, for bauxite in the Gulf of Carpentaria and adjacent areas, and for lignite coal in W.A. in addition to Arnhemland areas, are registered in the stock exchanges of Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, and shares can be purchased through any reputable broking firm. Per 10 cents.

G.B.

Progress Association.

Baker.

Mr. Les Holt from Albury in N.S.W. is to be the Baker. Mr. Holt is a man in his fifties, and for the past 2) years, has been the production manager and foreman in the Albury Bakeries. He is expected to arrive with Mrs. Holt during the first half of July.

There will be an official opening for the bakery when it gets into production and this will probably be in August.

Store Manager.

31 applications have been received so far, for the position of store Manager. A decision will be made during the next fortnight.

Mr. Glen Bagshaw will continue as the general Manager of the Progress Association.

Horticulturalist. Every effort is being made to secure services of a capable man to produce fruit and vegetables.

Council

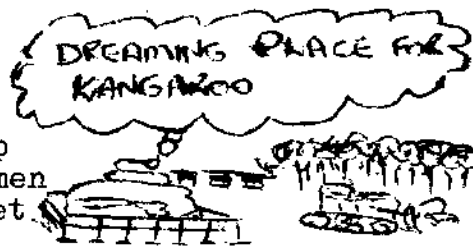
Present: 16 Councillors and 30 visitors.

- Business Arising:
1. Liquor. J. John reported nothing at airport last week.
 2. Mining. Superintendent informed Council that the Geologist was delayed; now arriving tomorrow. He would therefore be asked to address Council next week.
 3. President reported on last weeks oval meeting. Attendance was okay except for Bureras. He had asked several questions of the people but did not get satisfactory answers - about school children, marriage, and the mining business. There were many children not at school - this was a matter for the parents and he did not think that most parents worried enough about this very important thing. There was still a lot of trouble about marriage. The old people had to move and give the young ones a chance. The mining business was very close and he wondered whether Gunwingus should be given first chance of employment or should everyone join together. It was probably best to give Gunwingus first chance.

President was also disturbed about the organisation of the last Kunapipi. The leaders hadn't done the right job and organised everything properly. He had consequently declined to participate.

Comment on above: Cr. Munyal made two points:

1. The mining business should be shared by all as we are of one blood. Some old people will be needed to show the secret places otherwise, if desecrated, there might be widespread sickness, etc.
2. Old husbands should give up second wives to the young men voluntarily or they will get them anyway, the hard way.



New Business: President introduced visitors from Hooker Creek. He wanted them to go away satisfied that they had seen all visitors: they could.

Canteen: Cr. Munyal said that the Council had set up the wet canteen for all Maningrida aborigines. The idea was accepted that people from other places could not drink there, but a number of Maningrida people were also excluded. These were the unemployed people but they were still Maningrida people and were therefore entitled to drink.

President said that he had enough of that subject and was not going to say any more. Cr. Baleiya said that he accepted the President's view. He was a working man, he had a clear conscience and suggested that loafer people could become that way too, if they made the effort. He could drink in the Club any time he liked.

President said that all ought to know these things by now. Working people can go anywhere. They had no problems. They didn't want the others hanging around their necks.

Cr. Yirinyin said that there were two choices - forward or backward. The choice had to be forward, and forward. It was fair enough about Mission people as the temptation was too strong and they would come here and drink if they could.

President said that some felt he was copying Europeans; this was wrong; he did his own thinking on these matters.

Cr. Munyal said he was working a different way. Councillors had said grog was for Maningrida people - no

Council cont.

exceptions. There were all sorts of people at Maningrida and Council had to help them all.

President called for expressions of confidence in his policies and his leadership.

He was supported by Councillors Baleiya, Yirinyin, Riala, Brown, Ganjibala, C. Mulumbuk and H. Mulumbuk. All stated that Council laws must be upheld; there could be no going back.

Cr. Munyal said that if Council made these laws then people should take notice.

(There was further discussion around this matter, which is a basic issue).

Club B. Yirinyin
Roster: R. Munyal
J. John.

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Hooker Creek Visitors

Maningrida was host, this week, to the Superintendent of Hooker Creek, Mr. John Jennings and two councillors, Morris Luther and Sandy Jarrah. All three are travelling on a tour of northern settlements under the auspices of the Welfare Dept.

During their two-day stay at Maningrida they managed to catch meetings of the Council and Progress Association. They also saw some thing of most activities on the place including the garden at Cadell. They were especially interested in the Housing Associations activities and hope to establish a similar project at Hooker.

John has been at Hooker for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, having come there from Papunya, where he was also Superintendent. Morris is a teaching Assistant at Hooker and took copious notes on that which he observed and heard at Maningrida.

Hooker Creek is remembered by the writer chiefly as a pleasant spot at which one could gain respite from the rigors of Wave Hill Settlement, not a very pleasant spot. It is situated on the fringe of the desert country, about 100M south of Wave Hill. Unfortunately, it is not blessed (are any of us) with an abundance of fresh water and the otherwise striking red soil loses something of its charm when air-borne at a TAS of about 25 knots for the better part of the day. The population consists principally of Wailbri people, maybe 500 in all, who have lived at Hooker since it was established about 20 years ago. The surrounding area is taken up by cattle stations; in fact, Hooker itself has a Welfare Branch cattle project. To the South there is nothing, just cactus, until one comes to the abandoned goldfields of Tanami and, further still, the Granites. Still, there are areas of mineralization here and maybe Hooker's future is somehow connected with these. A few years ago the population dropped to a fairly low level and some thought was given to abandonment; it is definitely on the increase now and the problem of future development is uppermost. There are pockets of grazing country in the northern half of the reserve but there would not seem to be enough to support development on a scale large enough to secure the future of the people.



The settlement itself is set out on an ironstone rise which overlooks semi-arid (12" p.a.) country. It, from remembrance, is constructed in a square, with residences, hospital and service buildings on the outer perimeter and a school complex in the centre. The standard of housing facilities for the aboriginal people is about the same as Maningrida, i.e. not the brightest; this may have been influenced by past uncertainty as to the future of the establishment and the water problem. Still, these are problems which

Last Saturday the "Fourcroy" landed a second D7 dozer. We hope to have it working soon at the Cadell.

Our Timber Resources teams left last Monday for the Mann River but will be back for tonight's picture show and a weekend's rest.

Hoppy, our Foreman Mechanic, arrived on Wednesday for his monthly inspection. Sorry, Hoppy, this time we have a few machines on sick leave.

At the sawmill a 25,000 gallon tank is being erected to store water for fire protection.

E.Q.

FIRE a friend or an enemy

Once again the bushfire season has arrived. All fire fighting equipment is kept ready for quick action. Still, we all hope there won't be much need for it.

All the smoke clouds you might have noticed during this week were of fires started by Forestry workers, doing protection burning outside Loop Road and towards Cadell way. This has to be done every year before fires might by accident close to areas with good timber stands, also to protect the regeneration areas of Cypress pine.

Every year, at the beginning of the dry season, the grader or dozer clears the fire breaks, and some of these are the starting points for protection burning or back-burning when an accidental fire has started. Fire is one of Forestry's greatest helpers as long as it is controlled and does not get out of hand. If it does, hundreds or even thousands of acres of good timber stands might be destroyed. To prevent this, all you people can help a lot in various ways. When you go walkabout on weekends or in your holidays, make sure that your campfires are completely out before you move on. Very important: DON'T LET YOUR CHILDREN PLAY WITH MATCHES! Also, anybody noticing a fire when away in the bush can help by reporting this fire to Forestry. Even though we have fire patrols watching out for bushfires seven days a week, they might miss seeing one or the other little smoke cloud of a starting fire. The sooner we know of every outbreak of fire, the better the chance that serious damage can be avoided. Therefore we'd be grateful for everybody's co-operation.

E.Q.

THE GENIUS

Forms will be distributed to all householders tonight, and collected on Tuesday night. Your co-operation is appreciated. If you will not be home on Tuesday night please leave your completed forms at the office.

J.H.

WANTED URGENTLY

at the Craft Room

Didgeridoos 3 ft., 4 ft., 5 ft., 6 ft. to fill some urgent orders, large bailer shells, - large coloured mts.

Hooker - cont. -

which most communities have to overcome and the people at Hooker are tackling them with enthusiasm.

The local organisations are much the same as at Maningrida. There is a Council, of course, and a Social Club which operates the retail store and a successful transport service. The store is well established whilst the transport service is most interesting. It was set up on a loan from ABTF and purchased a large semi-costing over \$20,000. This unit is operated by Bede Wykes, and works out of Darwin (Wombana Transport). It carries the loading into Hooker once per month and otherwise free-lances to assist in covering running costs.

This then, is a brief, and no doubt, inadequate sketch of Hooker.

J.H.

WEEKEND DUTIES: Duty Officer: Mr Ed. Carey
Duty Sister: Sister Ena Pickersgill
Nightwatchman: Mr Barney Baybananga

STAR THEATRE: Friday: We hope that the film will come on t. d. plane.

CHURCH: Sunday 9.30 a.m. Sunday Schools "Man's hope."
7.00 p.m. Evening Service
Thursday 7.30 p.m. Fellowship

When a forestry nursery man or a gardener sows the seeds of the cypress pine or a water melon he "sows in hope." He hopes that the seeds will grow and later on become big trees or juicy melons. He knows that the little plants could die, fire could kill the young tree or thieves could take the melons before they're ripe. Still he plants in hope.

The New Testament speaks of Our Heavenly Father as the God of hope. He does not shut His eyes to any bad things that could happen as we so often do. He faced the darkest and the worst - the death of the Cross. His hope springs from the life that rises out of death and is alive for ever.

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BIRTHS:

Irwin son of Lena Djulgidj and George Darawalnga (Burada) on June 20th.

Gaye daughter of Margaret Wambalmarra on June 22nd.
Weighed 2 lbs.

Both babies have gone to Darwin Hospital.

People

Mr Joshua Morlurg after leaving Meningrida for good, returned this week and is at work in the Forestry nursery. Joshua thinks he may stay here for good now.

Mrs Barbara Quick returned on Saturday from Elcho. Barbara worked part time in the office there and gave valuable help when some of the office staff were laid low with sickness.

On the Fourcroy on Saturday

Mr Bert Ryan's red mini moke.

Mr Bruce and Mike Craven's motor boat. They tried it out at the weekend and it skimmed across the water in real speedboat style.

Round the world travellers, David Gulpulil and Dick Bandalil returned last Friday, looking very fit and well in their Hong Kong tailored suits. David is hoping to go to Nangalala shortly, to see his mother, and Dick is back on the job with the builders.

Juliet returned from Darwin during the week. Her back is very much better.

On Monday, Mr. Peter Williams and seven senior girls will travel to Elcho, for and seven boys in the care of Mr. Lindsay B. will come here for basketball competitions. They return on Wednesday.

Several articles held over for next week's Mirage include The Scout Camp, One Way of Stopping a Fight, Morris and Sandy comment on Life at Meningrida.

Stop Press. Mr. Rod Seymour received word yesterday that he

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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