

**MS 2539**

**John Richard Von Sturmer papers  
1969-1984**

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**ACCESS AND SCOPE NOTES**

**Access**

Restricted access.

**Scope**

Collected papers, diaries, field notebooks, printed material and typescript (photocopies). Slides and photographs are held in the Photographic Section. Maps are held in the Manuscript Plan Cabinet 5, Drawer 3. 9 (17cm) boxes.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

### *Von Sturmer, John Richard*

Dr John von Sturmer lectures at the School of Sociology, University of New South Wales, Kensington. This material relates to fieldwork at Aurukun and Edward River areas in Queensland between 1969 and 1978. Dr von Sturmer was involved with the Social Impact of Uranium Mining on the Aborigines of the Northern Territory Project, 1979-84.

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## FIELD NOTEBOOKS

### BOX 1

#### Item:

1. Aurukun - October 1969 (Field Trip No 1); 30 November - 7 December-1962 (Field Trip No 2).
2. Edward River - 1 October to 3 November 1969.
3. Edward River - 3 to 27 November 1969.
4. Aurukun - 31 December 1969 to 15 February 1970; description of bush medicine, dances, stones, food taboos, initiation ceremony, card games and translations.
5. Edward River - 1969; descriptions of ear/nose piercing, food taboos, rainmaking, burial ceremony, lovesongs, contraceptives, aphrodisiacs, grief expressions, bush medicine, place names.
6. Aurukun - 26 January to 16 May 1970; descriptions of nose/ear piercing, burials, bush medicine, tooth-avulsion, stories/legends.
7. Aurukun - 21 January to 27 February 1970; details of the 'Cord Ceremony', with Aboriginal/English translations, mourning dance for men.
8. Aurukun - 30 July to 5 December 1970 (Field Trip No 3).
9. Aurukun - 3 August to 15 December 1970 (Field Trip No 4).
10. Aurukun - 1970; Requirements of Arrangements.
11. Aurukun - 8 December 1970 to 22 January 1971; includes legends, genealogies, translations.
12. Mitchell River - no date; children's illustrations, various dances described, stories.
13. Aurukun - trip to Yan'ng 6/7 January 1971; trip to Yan'ng; 15 to 18 February 1971 - botanical identification, translations.
14. Arukun - 27 December 1970 to February 1971; translations, stories.
15. Aurukun - 8 June to 10 July 1971 (Field Trip No 5).
16. Aurukun - 19 August 1970 to 22 January 1971; association with Peret.

17. Yu'nyu, Yoyka River - 11-14 August 1971; includes bush names, kinship terms, legends, Neo-traditionalism, attributes of Council, individual staff and Aborigines, planned activities and work completed.
18. Edward River - 20 August 1971; translations, description of dances.
19. Aurukun/Victor Mission - September 1971; translations, genealogy, sketches of carvings, dance performances.
20. Aurukun - July to October 1971; translations, location maps with Aboriginal words, description of dances, songs, Aboriginal Theatre Foundation, Darwin.
21. Aurukun - 13 to 28 February 1972; translations of Aboriginal family histories.
22. Edward River/Aurukun - 25 March to 8 April 1972; translations, genealogies, dances.
23. Aurukun - 30 March to 2 April 1972; Aurukun dances. translations, children's illustrations.
24. Aurukun - 26 November to December 1972; legends translations, 'house opening'.
25. Aurukun - November 1972; kinship, vocabulary, stories, songs.
26. Aurukun - November to December 1972; children's illustrations, details of planning industry development.
27. Aurukun/Edward River - December 1972; translations, legends, detailed description of dancing/singing.
28. Aurukun - Lockhart Festival - 28 to 31 December 1972.
29. Aurukun - 19 January to 4 February 1973; dances.
30. Aurukun - Jan to February 1973; dances, stories, genealogies.
31. Aurukun - July 1978; translations, Aboriginal family history, 'house' opening, songs.
32. Aurukun - August 1978; economy, stories, genealogies, translations.
33. Aurukun - 1978; translations.

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## **DIARIES**

### **BOX 2**

#### **Item:**

34. 1964
35. 1965
36. 1966
37. 1980 (Two completed)
38. 1980 (Two completed)

39. 1982

40. 1983

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### **FIELD RECORD NOTES**

41. 1961 : Daily work activities of P. Hudson at Bambuu Cattle Station.

42. 1979 : Records - alphabetical lists and file records.

43. 1982 : Field trips, including Korea, Japan and Aurukun.

44. Anthropological Site Survey Field Data Book: Kendall River, no date.

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### **VOCABULARY CARDS**

#### **BOX 3**

##### **Item:**

45. Mungkan

46. Yuku/Mayi

47. Cape York: bibliography

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### **OVERSIZE SHELF**

48. Sketch book of Genealogies and Crayon Drawings. (Stored in oversize box)

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#### **BOX 4**

##### **Item:**

49. Project 75 : von Sturmer/Bos - Correspondence, Reports.

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### **MINING**

#### **BOX 4**

##### **Item:**

50. Social Impact of Uranium Mining on the Aborigines of the Northern Territory - Working Papers.

51. Mining - General : Submissions, Reports, Meetings.
52. Oenpelli - Community Profile, N.T.
53. Aurukun - The Shell Company and Aurukun Associates.
54. Project 83 : Comalco vs ABC Court case.

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## **FILMS AND DANCES**

### **BOX 4**

#### **Item:**

55. AIAS : Ethnographic Film Workshop (1976) and Conference (1978).
56. Aboriginal Film: Sons of Namatjira.
57. Aboriginal Films: General.
58. Aboriginal Films: Outstation, 1976.
59. Film Festival at Lockhart, Old - 1973 (Shown in 1976) - AIAS.
60. Field Techniques for Video Tape.
61. Aurukun Dance Project, 1976.
62. Aurukun Dances : Set of body designs associated with the dances.

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### **BOX 5**

#### **Item:**

63. Aurukun Dances : Order of Steps.
64. Aurukun Dance Film : Documentation by McCarthy, April 1976 (First Batch).
65. Aurukun Dance Film : Documentation by McCarthy October 1976 (Second Batch).
66. Aurukun Dance Film Contents (Duplicated First and Second Batches).

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## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **BOX 5**

#### **Item:**

67. Institute for Aboriginal Development; Nungalinga College in Arnhem Land; Indulkana People in S.A.; Finke River and Hermannsburg Missions.

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## **AURUKUN MISCELLANEOUS FILES**

68. Aurukun Kinship, November 1969; alphabetical list of Aurukun assisted Aborigines.
69. Aurukun Oral History - field tape record sheets, Collector: Kath Hinchley, 1982.
70. Aurukun 'MacKenzie's diary account of a trip to the Kendall and Hulroyd Rivers, 23 October to 4 November 1953' (typescript and copy).
71. Report on Peret Outstation movement, 1976.
72. Community Development, Shire Council, Correspondence.

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## **BOX 6**

### **Item:**

73. Aurukun : Draft Report and copies of published material relating to Aurukun.
74. Aurukun situation 1975 to present.
75. Aurukun/Edward River Reserves' Boundaries, Government Gazette Records.
76. DAIA Directors Report 1963-75, Government Policies; Newspaper Clippings 1969-76.

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## **CAPE YORK ECOLOGY TRANSECT**

## **BOX 7**

### **Item:**

77. Bloomfield River - Reports and Correspondence: J.C. Anderson.
78. CAYET : documents related to Handbook.

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## **CORRESPONDENCE**

79. Aurukun : Correspondence with F.D. McCarthy 1970-76; P.J. Ucko 1972/73.
80. Aurukun - 1969/70 : Notes on genealogies, vocabulary lists, Taior and Uwan language; descriptions of dancing, stories, Jan 1970 daily reports, December 1969, Jan 1970; correspondence.
81. Aurukun - 1971; vocabulary lists, December 1969 daily reports, correspondence.

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## **BOX 8**

### **Item:**

82. Aurukun - 1972: translations; case study - disappearance of Minwoolla; notebook on Edward River, details of flora, dances, stories, songs, other legends and stories; church Notices; Aboriginal Theatre Foundation Inc; correspondence.
83. Aurukun - 1973; translations; daily reports; newsletters of Cape York Peninsular Chaplains conference, for workers with Australian Aborigines; report of visit to Canberra (February) by Prince Escott (Mornington Island), Jacob Wolmby (Aurukun), Rev. J Brown and R. Denham; press clippings; correspondence and telegrams.
84. Aurukun - 1974; newsletters of Cape York Peninsular Chaplains conference; description of a ceremonial group, Chivriy (Winda-winda people); correspondence.

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## **BOX 9**

### **Item:**

85. Aurukun - 1975/76: diary for 1975; daily reports newspaper clippings; correspondence and telegrams.
86. General correspondence - 1978/79; diary for 1979.
87. General correspondence - 1980.
88. General correspondence - 1981.
89. General correspondence - 1982.
90. General correspondence - 1983.
91. Extracts from nineteenth century survey reports: Cape York

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Guide updated by J. Phillips February 2000.

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