

VON STURMER

MS 3516

**John von Sturmer; Social Impact of
Uranium Mining Project Papers
1978-1984,
and papers relating to Queensland
1970s**

FINDING AID

Collection Summary

Collection no:	MS 3516
Title:	John von Sturmer; Social Impact of Uranium Mining Project papers 1978-1984, and papers relating to Queensland 1970s
Creator:	Von Sturmer, John Richard
Date range:	1963 – 1984
Extent:	5.28 linear metres (9 x custom archival box + 11 x Type 1 archival box + 1 x map folio + 1 x Poster Box)
Repository:	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Social Impact of Uranium Mining Project Papers 1978-1984 and papers relating to Queensland 1970s

20 boxes + 1 map folio + 1 poster box

Diaries, field notebooks, field notes, unpublished papers, reports, correspondence, press clippings, maps, posters.

In 1978 the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs proposed that the Australian Institute for Aboriginal Studies should undertake research on the social impact of uranium mining on Aborigines in the Northern Territory. The AIAS appointed John von Sturmer as the Project Director and Sue Kesteven as Research Fellow. Research work was carried out mainly at Oenpelli. The activities of the project were outlined in six monthly reports to the Minister with final reports in 1984. The papers in this collection mostly comprise Dr von Sturmer's personal files and notes although some Project correspondence and reports are also included. This collection also contains various reports, papers and press clippings relating to Queensland Aboriginal Affairs and Aboriginal Education in the 1970s.

In 2018, an addition was made to this collection, relating to negotiations between Northern Land Council and the Joint venture parties to the Jabiluka Uranium mine; and the Ranger Agreement.

Further material was added to this collection in 2023.

BOX 1 Diaries and notebooks.

ITEMS

- 1 Collins Financial year. Diary 1979 [Mark Dreyfus hand?].
- 2 Green notebook. Diary April 1979.
- 3 Collins blue notebook. Diary 8.8.1979-1.11.1979. [Oenpelli/Darwin].
- 4 Pilot exercise book. Field notes. Oenpelli 1979.
- 5 Universal exercise book. Field notes. Oenpelli 1979.
- 6 Green notebook. Diary 10.12.1979- [Canberra]

BOX 2 Diaries and notebooks.

- 7 Collins blue notebook. Field notes 10.4.1980-17.7.1980. Oenpelli.
- 8 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 17.6.1980-12.12.1980. Oenpelli.
- 9 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 2.12.1980-5.3.1980.
- 10 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 2.12.1980-7.12.1980. Interviews, Oenpelli.
- 11 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 7.7.1980-20.10.1980. Oenpelli.
- 12 Collins black notebook. 25.7.1980-9.8.1980. Interview with David Rourke, NLC.
- 13 Collins black notebook. 24.6.1980-23.1.1981. Croker Island, Goulburn Island.
- 14 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 1.12.1980-20.2.1980. Alligator Rivers Land Claim and UNESCO seminar 'Technological impact on the culture of the Pacific.

BOX 3 Diaries and notebooks.**MS 3516**

- 15 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 28.11.1980-15.4.1982. Language notes. Kunwinjku.
- 16 Collins blue notebook. Telephone diary. 1.2.1980-20.10.1980.
- 17 Universal exercise book. 21.7.1980-8.8.1980. Notes from interview with Kenneth Mangiru.
- 18 Universal exercise book. 10.8.1980-22.10.1980. Diary kept by Kenneth Mangiru.
- 19 Pilot exercise book. 7.2.1980-22.10.1980. notes by Kenneth Mangiru.
- 20-22 Universal exercise book. Notes 'On death and Aborigines'. Oenpelli June-July 1980. (Joshua's funeral).
- 23 Universal exercise book. 1980 Traffic observations. Oenpelli.
- 24 Universal exercise book. Alligator Rivers region: Directory of people and organisations, 1980.
- 25 Universal exercise book. 22.6.1980-21.10.1980. 'Queries and issues' Oenpelli.
- 26 Collins black notebook. Notes from a meeting re: mining. 4-6 July 1981. Meeting chaired by Jacob Nanginggal, translated by Joseph Bumarda, notes taken by John von Sturmer.
- 27 Universal exercise book. News broadcast may 1981 [Oenpelli events].

BOX 4 Diaries and notebooks.

- 28 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 6.3.1981-9.6.1981. Canberra, Oenpelli, Jabiru.
- 29 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 16.7.1981-13.10.1981.
- 30 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 19.12.1981-28.1.1982. Oenpelli.
- 31 Collins black notebook. Diary. 22.7.1981-13.9.1981; 1.6.1982-3.9.1982. Canberra, Darwin.
- 32 Universal exercise book. Field notes. 1.6.1981-29.6.1981. Oenpelli. Kinship and biographical information (Joseph Bumarda).
- 33 Universal exercise book. 21.8.1980-19.3.1981. Notes by Joseph Bumarda.
- 34 Universal exercise book. 18.8.1981-21.10.1981. 'J.B. July 1981'
- 35 Universal exercise book. Field notes. 15.6.1981-14.7.1981. Notes on Pancontinental; Meeting with Bob Collins; miscellaneous field notes.
- 36 Universal exercise book. 1.7.1981-26.6.1982. Notes by BNN [Bundy Namarnyilk?]
- 37 Pilot exercise book. 15.12.1981-29.1.1982. Notes by and from Bundy Namarnyilk.

BOX 5 Diaries and notebooks.

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- 38 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 19.4.1982-23.5.1982; 22.11.1982-26.11.1982.
- 39 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 23.5.1983-27.5.1983.
- 40 Collins black notebook. Field notes. 15.10.1983-27.11.1983. Canberra, Kununurra.
- 41 Collins black notebook. Workbook. 13.12.1983-7.10.1984. Seaman Inquiry, Perth; AAS Conference; Ethics seminar.
- 42 Collins black notebook. Notes. No date.

BOX 6 Oenpelli genealogical information. A-I

BOX 7 Oenpelli genealogical information. J-N

BOX 8 Oenpelli genealogical information. O-Z.

BOX 9 Oenpelli field notes and correspondence.

- 43 Field notes. Oenpelli 1979-1980.
- 44 Field notes. Oenpelli 1981.
- 45 Field notes. Oenpelli October 1981.
- 46 Notes. Canberra October 1982.
- 47 Field notes. 1982.
- 48 Notes. Undated.
- 49 Olympic lecture pad. Field notes, diary. Oenpelli. Undated.
- 50 Individual health records. Manmoyi. Data collected for Medico-Social impact Study by Dr Max Kamien 1981.
- 51 (a) report of visit by John von Sturmer and Max Kamien June 1981 to Manmoyi in connection with Medico-Social Impact Study July 1981.
(b) Interim report of Medico-Social Impact Study by Max Kamien June 1981.
- 52 Report on field trip to Oenpelli October 1983.
- 53 Draft report by Sue Kesteven 'Oenpelli review' 87p. no date.
- 54 (a) R.M. Berndt, C.M. Berndt and Sue Kesteven 'Oenpelli: before and after' 14p. No date.
(b) R.M. Berndt and C.M. Berndt. 'A world apart: Oenpelli 1947-1950' 45p. no date.
- 55 Notes. Oenpelli. 26.9.1979. [Mark Dreyfus's hand?]
- 56 Spirax notebook. Oenpelli notes. [Sept 1979 Mark Dreyfus's hand?].
- 57 Gunbalanya Council Inc.
- 58 Correspondence. 1979.
- 59 Correspondence. 1980.
- 60 Correspondence. 1981.
- 61 Correspondence. 1982.
- 62 Correspondence. 1983.
- 63 Correspondence. 1984.

- 64 Gagudju Association. Correspondence 1980. with notes by Mark Dreyfus.
- 65 Gagudju Association and Gagudju Trust. Members.
- 66 Correspondence. Re: Gagudju Trust.
- 67 Meeting of traditional owners, Jim Jim 4-6 July [1981?] which set up the Gagudju Trust. [notes by Mark Dreyfus].
- 68 (a) Mark Dreyfus 'Some policy considerations for the Gagudju Association' Sept. 1980. Draft.
(b) Robert Levitus. Boundaries of Gagudju Association membership: Anthropology, law and public policy.' 37p. no date.
- 69 (a) Gunwinju clans and lands.
(b) Surnames at Oenpelli.
- 70 ANPWS and management issues re Kakadu National Park.
- 71-72 Commonwealth Dept. of Aboriginal Affairs reports/minutes re: Jabiru 1979-1983.
- 73 SIUM reports re: Jabiru.
- 74 Community profile Ranger/Jabiru.
- 75 Jabiru Town Development.
- 76 Constitution of Kunwinjku Association.
- 77 Ian Keen. *Report on Aboriginal traditional land ownership of the Alligator Rivers region. Part 1. Land owning groups (clans) and their membership.* 1975.
- 78 (a) Gerry and Helen Van Klinden. *Uranium mining on Aboriginal land 1977.*
(b) Statement by Silas Roberts to Ranger Uranium Environment Inquiry. 27 May 1976.
(c) W.J. Gray. *Impact of uranium mining in the Alligator Rivers region: interrelationships within the natural and social environments: the Ranger and Nabarlek Mining agreements.* 19p. no date.
(d) H.C. Coombs. *Impact of uranium mining on the social environment of Aborigines in the Alligator Rivers Region.* April 1980.
- 79 (a) Robert Levitus. *Alligator Rivers social history: the context of the research and a review of its findings.* 24 June 1984.
(b) Discussion of: Robert Levitus. *Alligator Rivers social history: the context of the research and a review of its findings.* 24 June 1984.
(c) George Chaloupka. Cultural environment of the Upper South Alligator valley: a case for resumption of Gimbat Station. November 1980.
(d) Gimbat-Goodparla land use study. November 1980.
- 80 (a) Agreement between Queensland Mines Ltd and NLC. Re: Nabarlek.
(b) AIAS response to Environmental Impact Study on Nabarlek.
(c) Dept. of Science. Assessment report on proposed Nabarlek uranium mine.

BOX 11**MS3516**

- 81 Pancontinental file.
- 82 AIAS response to Pancontinental Jabiluka uranium project final EIS August 1979.
- 83 Negotiators draft agreement June 1981 (Pancontinental and NLC)
- 84 Pancontinental mining Ltd. *Aboriginal employment and contract plan. Vol. I. Jabiluka project.*
- 85 Pancontinental mining Ltd. *Aboriginal employment and contract plan. Vol. 2.. Jabiluka project.*
- 86 (a) *Basic summary of Negotiators Draft Agreement* prepared by Peter Sutton.
(b) Comments by T.R.H. Cole QC.
- 87 *Jabiluka Project in pictures.*
- 88 Noranda file.
- 89 Koongara Project Book 1.
- 90 Koongara Project Book 2.
- 91 Notes on consultation.
- 92 Extracts from reports on consultation and information flow.
- 93 Notes: 'What is the impact of uranium mining?'
- 94 Notes: Employment and training.
- 95 Notes: Report to the Minister: conclusions.
- 96 Notes: Fox and after; other miscellaneous notes
- 97 Commonwealth Dept. of Aboriginal Affairs. Minutes, agenda etc Re: West Arnhem Land Co-ordinating Committee.
- 98-99 Commonwealth Dept. of Aboriginal Affairs. Reports, agenda etc Re: Standing Committee on SIUMP.
- 100 Co-ordinating Committee for Alligator Rivers Region. Agenda and papers. March 1984 meeting.

BOX 12

- 101-102 AIAS. Minutes of Uranium Impact Project Steering Committee 1980-1984.
- 103 Miscellaneous minutes and memos re: SIUMP.
- 104 AIAS. SIUM Project Directors reports.
- 105-107 AIAS IUMP Workshop 6-7 August 1983. Programme, transcripts and papers.
- 108 AIAS. Agenda and minutes of Special meeting/workshop of Project Executive Committee January 1984.
- 109 (a) History of SIUMP
(b) Report framework.
- 110 Co-ordinating Committee Alligator Rivers Region. Report Oct 1983-March 1984.

BOX 13**Social Impact of Uranium Mining Draft reports and working papers.**

BOX 14 Files ex Mark Dreyfus. Field reports, correspondence relating to his work with the NLC.

Files on:

Wagait
 Groote Eylandt
 Douglas Hot Springs
 Beetaloo
 Borroloola
 Crocodile Sanctuary, Arnhem Land.
 Quail Island
 Kenbi
 Sea closure.

BOX 15

- 111 (a) AIAS comments on Jabiluka Project.
 (b) Preparation of Social Impact statements: principles and guidelines.
 (c) Kakadu national Park plan of management: a comparison of the draft and final versions.
- 112 NT Dept. of mines and energy: Report of an incident at Nabarlek March 1981.
- 113 Correspondence 1980 Re: Working Party on Employment and Training:" Uranium Province.
- 114 Richard Bartlett. *Mineral rights on Aboriginal Lands and reserves in Australia*. Vol. 1. 1982.
- 115 Richard Bartlett. *Mineral rights on Aboriginal Lands and reserves in Australia*. Vol. 2. 1982.
- 116 Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory. Report to the Coordinating Committee for the Alligator Rivers Region on Environmental Regulatory services with respect to uranium development 1.10.83-31.3.84.
- 117 'The Ranger story': NT Legislative Assembly debates Nov. 1978.
- 118 AMPLA Conference. 1980. Papers.
- 119 Miscellaneous pamphlets on uranium mining.
- 120 Coastal sites: Blyth river-Cape Stewart.
- 121 (a) 'Problems associated with compiling a register of traditional owners'. Draft paper prepared by NLC.
 (b) 'Possible research procedure: 1979 Arnhem Land revival.'
 (c) 'Further progress and problems in a self-determining Aboriginal community.' H. Warwick Field notes Milingimbi. June 1979.
 (d) 'Aboriginal outstations and land rights: the Northern Territory Gulf experience.'
 (e) 'Maningrida: a quiet revolution.' ABC broadcast 20.9.1974.
- 122 'Free to decide: the United Church in North Australia Commission of enquiry, Arnhem Land.' Mar-Apr 1974.
- 123 'Aborigines and the Argyle Diamond Project. Submission to the Aboriginal Land Inquiry'. Prepared by Dr. W. Christensen. [1983?]

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- 124 (a) Nancy Williams. *Jural regulation of access to resources among the Yolngu of northeastern Australia: observations on boundaries and permission.*
(b) R.D. Markie and N.M. Williams. *Some notes on Aboriginal law, especially with respect to modes of killing and redress for killing.*
(c) Peter Sutton. *Decision making style and the making of decisions.* June 1983. 2p.
(d) Peter Sutton. *Anthropologists and development in Arnhem Land.* Draft. 1983. 18p.
- 125 Conference of Aboriginal Organisations. Darwin 1981.
- 126 Australian Aboriginal Affairs Council. Report of Joint Working Party on job training for Aboriginals. February 1981.
- 127 ANU Public Affairs Committee: Resource development and the future of Australian society. August 1981. Papers.
- 128 (a) Colin Tatz. *Aborigines and the age of atonement.* June 1983. 18p.
(b) C.D. Haynes. *Gunret, gundulk, dja bining: (land trees and man).* August 1977. 15p.
(c) Phillip Teitzel. 'Our land and yours'. Speech to Melbourne Rotary Club. January 1980.
- 129 (a) W. Clifford. *An approach to Aboriginal criminology.* 33p. nodate.
(b) Ann McGrath. *Not afraid of police and not bloody Myalls: Northern Territory cattle spearing 1911-40.* La Trobe University post-graduate seminar. May 1980.
- 130 Working party of the interim executive AAAA. *A position paper on professionalization.* prepared by John van Sturmer convenor of the working party. May 1986.
- 131 Press releases, speeches, policy statements on uranium mining by Federal and Northern Territory Members of Parliament.
- 132 Miscellaneous undated/unsourced notes, meetings, maps. site surveys etc. Re: Arnhem Land and uranium mining.

BOX 16 North West Queensland Consultancy 1975. Papers and correspondence. [items unnumbered]

BOX 17 Miscellaneous papers concerning Queensland.

- 133 Papers re: Possibility of introducing a course in Black Studies at the University of Queensland. 1972.
- 134 Entries in the Abschol Judith Wright essay competition 1971.
- 135 Aboriginal and Islanders Tribal Council. Policy manifesto and reports 1970.
- 136 Workshop on Aboriginal education. May 1971. Papers, agenda etc.
- 137 Queensland Health Education Council.
- 138 National Black Researchers Workshop. 1980. Papers and resolutions.
- 139 Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders Legal Service (Qld) Ltd. Correspondence and reports 1974-1978.
- 140 Queensland. Dept. of Aboriginal and Islanders Affairs. Honorary Wardens newsletters and correspondence.

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- 141 Notes from Paul Black's linguistic research. Koko-Bera language. AIAS tapes and MSS.
- 142 E. Bani. *The fear and respect of the dead in the Torres Strait Islands*. [1977] 46p. handwritten [Photocopied from AIAS collection?]
- 143 (a) OPAL (one People of Australia League) information.
(b) NADOC pamphlets.
(c) Black Power Conference 1970.
(d) Minutes of Kenmore West Pre-School 1973.
- 144 (a) McCracken. 'Changes to the Queensland Act.' [1967?]
(b) J.O. Hunter. 'Legal aid and the Aborigine in Queensland.'
(c) Laila Haglund. 'An archaeological survey of the North Pine Dam catchment.' 1973.
- 145 Correspondence with Ruth Lipscombe 1983. Re: Aboriginal education in the Northern Territory. Includes press clippings.
- 146 (a) John von Sturmer notes on a 'Practical school for Aborigines' 1976.
(b) John von Sturmer. *Towards an Aboriginal research strategy*. 1984.
- 147 John von Sturmer. Field notes on a visit to Kununurra 1970 Re: Film Project Kununurra Dance Styles.
- 148 Notes on Maddock's 'Myths of the acquisition of fire in northern and eastern Australia.'
- 149 Machmud Mackay. *Marketing and Aboriginal arts and crafts*. May 1973.
- 150 Electoral education material prepared by the NLC.

BOX 18 2018 Addition

- 151 Offer 9th June 1981, and explanatory papers
- 152 Northern Land Council, "Counter Offer" September 1981
- 153 Correspondence, 1978-1987.
- 154 Agreement between Northern Land Council and Pancontinental Mining Limited, Getty oil Development Company Limited, 27 Feb 1982
- 155 Summary of financial arrangements and other matters ... between Northern Land Council ... and the Joint Venture between Pancontinental Mining Limited and Getty Oil Company Limited
- 156 The Ranger Agreement

BOX 19 Press clippings 1970-mid 1980s, Queensland Aboriginal affairs and uranium mining. [items unnumbered]**BOX 20 Press clippings 1970-mid 1980 Queensland Aboriginal affairs and uranium mining. [items unnumbered]****MAP FOLIO 21 2023 Addition**

- 157 Northern Territory Government Alcohol Awareness poster "What is grog doing to our families", n.d.
- 158 Electoral poster "Land Rights not sweet talk: Vote 1 Bob Collins ALP", c. 1980
- 159 Concert poster "The Sound of Country Music at Oenpelli", 19 May 1981
- 160a Mount Evelyn Map, 1964
- 160b Alligator River Map, 1963
- 160c Coburg Peninsula Map, 1963

- 161 Cahill Map, 1973
- 162 Surveyor Map Lots 71-98 Townsite of Oenpelli, 1976

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- 163 Kakadu Map, 1978
- 164 Hand-drawn sketch showing hills and waterways in the Gunbalanya/Oenpelli region, n.d.