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ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER STUDIES

*Descriptive Level*

**Finding aid**

**ATSIC\_001**

**V09746\_1-2**

# **Barunga Sport and Cultural Festival 1988**

**Guide to the moving image recordings from the production of**

**Barunga Sport and Cultural Festival 1988**

by

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Commission (ATSIC), 1988**

## ACCESS

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

**Date:** 1988

**Extent:** 2 videocassettes (approximately 44 min. total): sound, colour

### Production history

In 1988 Prime Minister Bob Hawke was invited to attend the Barunga Sport and Cultural Festival, an annual event hosted by the Barunga community located 90 km south of Katherine. Footage of this event was collected by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, and was donated to AIATSIS by the Department of Social Services on 5 June, 2014.

This collection contains footage of John Ah Kit, Bob Hawke, Hazel Hawke, Kim McKenzie, Wayne Barker, Gerry Hand and many unidentified Indigenous men and women. The footage also focuses upon several of the activities undertaken as part of the event, including dance and music, football, basketball and spear-throwing competitions.

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## ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information contained in documentation provided by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

## ITEM LIST

<b>AIATSIS item number</b>	<b>Description</b>
V09746_1	<i>Barunga Sport and Cultural Festival 1988 – Roll #1</i>
V09746_2	<i>Barunga Sport and Cultural Festival 1988 – Roll #2 (announced as # 3)</i>

## ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

V09746\_1 / ATSIC1025

Performer/speaker(s):	Rosemary Hess [voiceover] , Bob Hawke, Hazel Hawke, Kim McKenzie, Wayne Barker, Warren Snowdon, Gerry Hand, Robert Lee, unidentified Indigenous men and women
Subject keywords:	Culture - Cultural festivals Dance - Recreational – Corroboree Art - Artists - Men
Language/people:	Jawoyn people (N57) (NT SD53-09) (?)
Places:	Barunga / Bamyili (NT Top End Upper Roper SD53-09)
Recording quality:	Good
Date of recording:	10-13(?) June 1988

Timing point	Description	Place of recording
00:00:00	Blank.	Barunga, N.T.
00:00:13	Colour bars.	
00:01:02	Blank.	
00:01:24	Three unidentified Indigenous men playing clapsticks and a didjeridu. Rosemary Hess explains in a voiceover the origins of the Barunga Sports and Cultural Festival, the key themes for this year's festival, and the significance of the year.	
00:01:27	A group of unidentified Indigenous men dance.	
00:01:32	A group of unidentified Indigenous men adorned in white body paint dance and sing.	
00:01:41	Close-up shot of two unidentified Indigenous children watching the performances.	
00:01:42	Further shot of the latter group of unidentified Indigenous male dancers.	
00:01:59	Jawoyn leader and Barunga councillor /town clerk Robert Lee briefly explains that the festival shows that Indigenous people are capable of organising their own activities.	
00:02:08	Shot of a team of unidentified Indigenous males playing basketball. Rosemary Hess discusses the activities undertaken at the event and their significance,	

	as a voiceover.	
00:02:13	Close up shot of unidentified Indigenous men dancing.	
00:02:27	Head and shoulders shot of an unidentified Indigenous man from Darwin, explaining the importance of the festival to him in retaining cultural practices.	
00:02:40	Head and shoulders shot of an unidentified Indigenous woman from Western Australia, describing her impressions of the Festival.	
00:02:49	Head and shoulders shot of Bob Hawke. Warren Snowdon, Kim McKenzie and Wayne Barker are seen in the background. Camera pans across to Hazel Hawke. Rosemary Hess narrates Bob and Hazel Hawke's arrival at the event.	
00:02:56	Shot of the back of Bob Hawke's head, as he watches a welcoming ceremony performed by members of the Barunga-Wugularr community.	
00:03:00	Head and shoulders shot of two unidentified Indigenous men, adorned in white body paint. The camera pans across to Bob Hawke meeting members of the crowd.	
00:03:04	Shot of a large group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people from behind, watching on.	
00:03:06	Bob Hawke throws a spear, as the crowd watches on.	
00:03:24	Gerry Hand throws a spear, as the crowd watches on.	
00:03:36	Robert Lee and Bob Hawke sit on the ground, amongst the crowd, watching the events.	
00:03:40	Blank screen.	
00:03:52	A group of unidentified Indigenous men play football, as a crowd watches on.	
00:06:40	Shots of members of the crowd watching the football match.	
00:07:14	Further shots of the football match.	
00:08:23	An unidentified Indigenous man performs a dance. The camera pans across to a group of unidentified Indigenous men, including dancers, and men playing clapsticks and a didjeridu; then returns to the dancers	

	as the dance finishes.	
00:09:23	Gerry Hand and others sit in a group while the painting of the Barunga Statement begins. Wayne Barker and Warren Snowdon stand nearby, underneath the shelter.	
00:09:30	A group of unidentified Indigenous men complete their dance. The camera follows them briefly, and then pans across to the shelter where The Barunga Statement is being painted.	
00:10:03	Three unidentified men stand together, and another stands a little behind them clapping, playing the didjeridu and clapsticks, and later singing. The shot zooms out to reveal two audio recordists (one possibly Neil Harwood?), briefly focussing on them and their equipment while the men continue to perform, and on several unidentified onlookers.	
00:11:30	A group of unidentified Indigenous men and boys talk and mill about. Some of the younger boys pull faces at the camera. They walk to the nearby performance arena, and begin to dance. The four unidentified men from the previous shot continue to sing and play their instruments.	
00:15:17	General crowd shots.	
00:16:06	Further crowd shots. A group of unidentified Indigenous people enter the arena; several play clapsticks. They begin to sing and dance.	
00:18:02	An unidentified non-Indigenous audio recordist watches on while an unidentified Indigenous man plays the didjeridu. The camera returns to the dancers.	
00:18:54	Close up of an unidentified Indigenous woman looking on.	
00:19:27	Shot of two bystanders, a cameraman, and an unidentified non-Indigenous man standing nearby. The camera pans back to the unidentified Indigenous woman from the previous shot.	
00:19:58	General crowd shots. A group of unidentified Indigenous men dance and sing in the background.	
00:20:47	End.	

V09746\_2 / ATSID1045

Performer/speaker(s):	John Ah Kit, Bob Hawke, Hazel Hawke, Kim McKenzie, Wayne Barker, Gerry Hand, Robert Lee, Warren Snowdon, unidentified Indigenous men and women
Subject keywords:	Culture - Cultural festivals Dance - Recreational - Corroboree
Language/people:	Jawoyn people (N57) (NT SD53-09) (?)
Places:	Barunga / Bamyili (NT Top End Upper Roper SD53-09)
Recording quality:	Good
Date of recording:	12 June 1988

Timing point	Description	Place of recording
00:00:00	Blank.	Barunga, N.T.
00:00:12	Colour bars. The date is noted and the footage is announced as 'Roll 3'.	
00:00:33	A group of unidentified Indigenous men play basketball.	
00:02:29	Close up shot of a non-Indigenous cameraman whose camera carries the Iloura Productions logo. He sticks out his tongue and thumbs his nose at the camera.	
00:02:39	General crowd shot, with an Indigenous cameraman in the foreground. The camera zooms in on an unidentified Indigenous toddler playing with a football.	
00:03:37	A group of unidentified Indigenous men play football as onlookers watch the match. Barely audible commentary over a loudspeaker announces upcoming events, including the arrival of the Prime Minister.	
00:06:44	Head and shoulders shot of John Ah Kit speaking through a two-way radio.	
00:07:26	A group of Jawoyn/Barunga-Wugularr people painted for ceremony await the arrival of the parliamentary delegation. Kim McKenzie instructs people where to stand for the arrival.	
00:07:46	An unidentified Indigenous man shouts instructions from the driver's seat of a van, while John Ah Kit discusses arrangements with two others. The group of Indigenous people walk in single file away from the camera.	

00:08:18	An unidentified Indigenous woman walks along the road, calling out to someone.
00:08:31	An unidentified man offers directions to the driver of a car, which drives off.
00:08:46	Three cars park next to one another. Several people emerge from the middle one, including Bob and Hazel Hawke. They walk towards the crowd, and along with Gerry Hand, are greeted by Phyllis and John Ah Kit. They watch a welcome dance performed by members of the Barunga-Wugularr community.
00:10:12	Close up head and shoulders shot of Bob Hawke.
00:10:17	Close up of Bob Hawke, with Warren Snowdon, Kim McKenzie and Wayne Barker in the background. Camera pans to Hazel Hawke, then zooms out to capture them all watching the performance.
00:10:35	Close up shot of Bob Hawke; Kim McKenzie appears briefly in the background. Zoom out to performers again.
00:11:13	Close up of Bob Hawke. Wayne Barker appears briefly in the background. The camera follows Bob Hawke and Gerry Hand as they approach the dancers, thank them and shake their hands.
00:12:04	General crowd shot.
00:12:14	Shot of a satellite. Bob Hawke and Gerry Hand walk across the lawn with Robert Lee, Warren Snowdon and others. Bob Hawke shakes John Ah Kit's hand, and then continues on.
00:13:35	Two large models of kangaroos sit on a grassy oval. Camera pans to the crowd of onlookers, who watch several unidentified Indigenous men, in turn engage in a spear throwing competition.
00:15:12	Bob Hawke and Robert Lee sit on the ground watching the competition, the onlookers behind them, as contestants continue to take the field.
00:17:29	Bob Hawke, accompanied by Robert Lee, approaches an unidentified Indigenous man, who explains to him how to throw a spear correctly, prior to Bob Hawke's attempt. Gerry Hand also attempts to throw a spear.



00:20:04	End.	
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