

**Quotes from Olney, H W 1991 *Kenbi (Cox Peninsula) Land Claim: Report by the Aboriginal Land Commissioner to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and to the Administrator of the Northern Territory*. Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service.**

7.1.1 [The Kenbi Land Claim Book] identifies the members of the [danggalaba clan] as Bobby Secretary, Topsy Secretary, Prince of Wales

Olga Singh, Rachel (or Paula) Thompson, and Kathleen (or Dolphin) Minyinma.

7.1.5 Kathleen (or Dolphin) Minyinma (also sometimes referred to as Kathleen Presley) is the daughter of Billy Minyinma whose father was Crab Billy Belyuen. The latter's father is said to have been adopted or putative son of Tommy Lyons's grandfather. She has grown up away from the claim area with a foster family.

7.3.5 The pre-eminence of the danggalaba clan means that all surviving members of the danggalaba clan automatically have a publicly recognised entitlement to Larrakia country...

9.16 The death of Olga Singh in April 1989 further depleted the ranks of the danggalaba clan. By the time the claim was heard the only surviving clan members were Topsy Secretary, Gabriel Secretary, Prince of Wales and Kathleen Minyinma. The clan is obviously doomed to extinction....

9.22.1 Kathleen is a young woman (born 1968) whose father died when she was a baby....

9.22.2 When she was young her mother told her that her grandfather has been an important man among the Larrakia people. There seems to be no doubt that the person referred to was Crab Billy Belyuen, her father's father, who from the evidence, was clearly a prominent member of the danggalaba clan. She was told as a child that she was related to the Secretary family, but did not visit them.

9.22.3 Kathleen has an obviously growing interest in things Larrakia. During the hearing she indicated her desire to use the name Minyinma (her father's name) rather than Presley, a name which I gather she acquired from the European man with whom her mother lived after her father's death.

9.22.4...When asked on 23 November 1989 why she had been attending the land claim hearing she responded, "To learn about our knowledge and how to protect the land and sacred sites" (Ts p.780).

9.22.5 ...She strikes me as a quiet but impressive person who may one day take up the mantle of her grandfather and be a leader among the Larrakia.

9.24 Before her death in April 1989 Mrs Olga Singh was a very prominent leader of the Larrakia people and a member of the danggalaba clan as had been her father the late Tommy Lyons (Imabulg). Had she survived it is likely that the criteria of the statutory definition of traditional Aboriginal owners may have been met. She is however survived by three children Raelene, Jason and Zoe, whose ages (at the time of the hearing) ranged from 20 to 13....The three Singh children identify as Larrakia and are generally recognised as such by other Aboriginal people... I have given serious consideration as to whether these three young people should be regarded as members of the danggalaba clan and have concluded that they should not be. The claim documents do not at any stage put them forward as clan members. Indeed, it is not questioned that the principle of patrilineal descent is the appropriate means of identifying membership of the clan. Conceivably, in some circumstances, such as the absence of a continuing patriline, this principle may well have been departed from but in the present context there is no evidence to suggest that the Singh children have taken over the role of their mother and grandfather in relation to danggalaba. This is not surprising due to their respective ages.

**Note:** Tibby is quite justified to object to the way his family were excluded as members of the danggalaba clan. The error seems to have been the uncritical but rather selective acceptance of patrilineal succession when this principle had been ruled redundant by precedents in other cases. If Topsy's tree had been available it may have supported the Batcho claim to be included in the clan. Furthermore by not putting forward the Singh children as members of the clan, the claim documents referred to were interfering with the process of succession. As Tibby says, Kenbi slanted the Larrakia laws and customs towards the Wadjiginy customs of Raelene's grandmother Maudie who raised her. I am told first hand that Olga died in her thirties of alcoholism.