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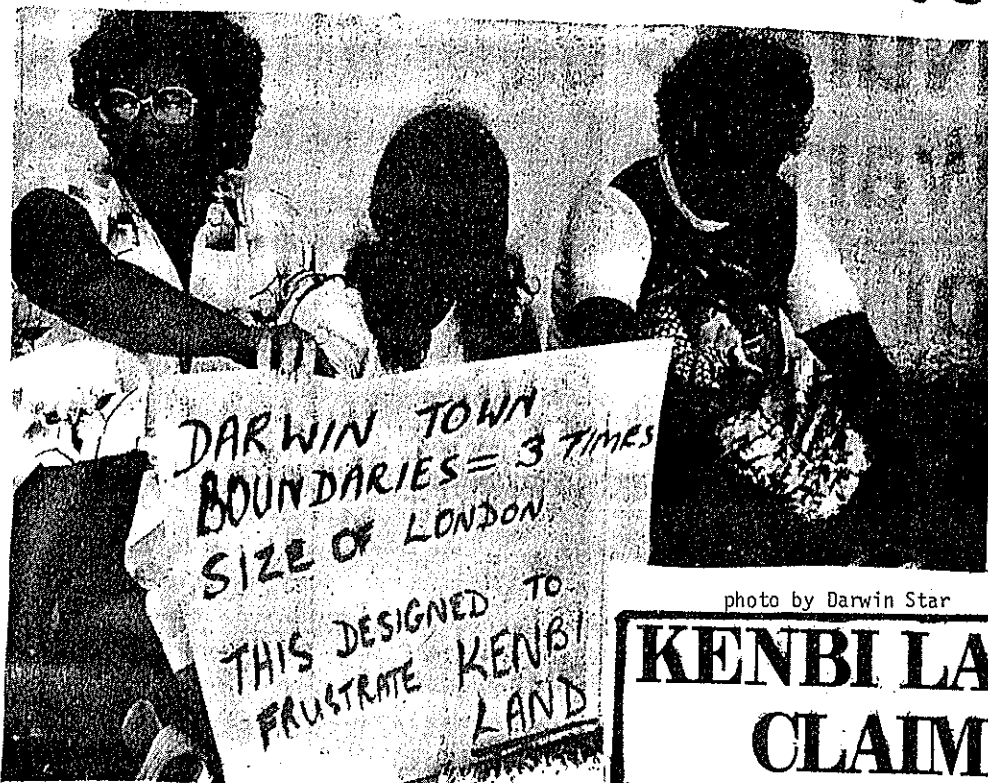
BUNJI



Many Tribes — One People

P.O. Box 3743
DARWIN N.T.

BALANDA LAW IS FOR BALANDA



Once again the whiteman's law has been changed to trick the tribes of the north.

1. First a land claim was made to Cox Peninsular (Kenbi).
2. Then the government stopped the claim by making the Darwin town boundaries bigger.
3. Next the NLC went to the High Court. The High Court Judges said the NT Government must show why the town boundaries were moved.
4. This month Everingham made another law. The law was called "The Evidence Amendment Bill." This new law tries to stop the Aboriginal Land Commissioner from looking at the real reason why the town boundaries were moved.

MANY PEOPLE PROTESTED OUTSIDE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, BUT THE NEW LAW WAS PUSHED THROUGH. NEXT MOVE IS UP TO THE NORTHERN LAND COUNCIL. PROTEST ON MAY DAY, MAY 3rd!

INSIDE - OLD MAN ROCK PROTECTED

WET SEASON AT ONE MILE DAM

The sandflies are still biting late at night at Railway Dam camp. Terry Murine and Harold Phillips are sitting in an open shed, brightly lit by electric lights. The pensioners, Ruby one, Jimmy Bama, and George munggulu are asleep in the darkened iron huts scattered around the lease.

All this wet season, One Mile Camp, as it is commonly called, has been surrounded by water. Not fresh running water, but dirty, oily water that has drained from the yards of the petrol companies on the hillsides all around. When the land next to camp was filled, the old open drains were deliberately blocked to give the landholder a few extra square yards. The road into the Aboriginal camp has been one meter under water ever since.

About midnight the single men come back from the Parap Hotel. In single file they walk, clinging to the high fence built around the boundary. It is the only way they can keep out of the flooded drains. A drunken person could easily fall into the smelly water.

YELLOWCAKE AND URANIUM

Paul Smiler and Tasman Yarrowin want to talk about the yellowcake that was loaded onto ships at the Darwin wharf nearby.

"I was really mad about it", says Paul. "You should have stopped that uranium. Get a tractor and tip it into the sea." "You know what they are doing? They are going to send a nuclear bomb to Australia. It's gone too far, this uranium."

Paul is going back to Port Keats first flight in the morning. Back to his job as a hygiene officer and to his wife who works in the hospital.

Tasman says, "We want to stop the uranium mining and wars."

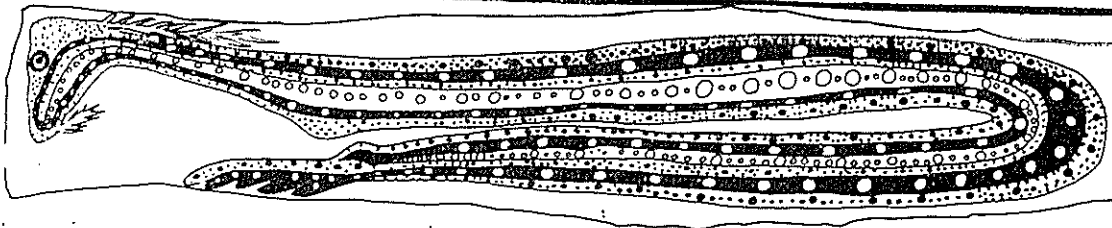
CITY COUNCIL CANT TOUCH US HERE

The young men are lying down on the bare cement and some are already asleep. Others have gone over to the pensioners huts where they joke and talk loudly til dawn. Patrick Smiler speaks like the boss. He tells Ronald Muluk to shut up.

"City Council cant touch us here" he says proudly, "Ruby is in charge here on our land. It is our land, the Kumbutjil Association. Some people getting sick from this water here, mosquitoes. And grass growing long. THIS WATER GETTING A BIT DANGEROUS FOR US."

One Mile Dam Camp is close to town but in a lonely place and especially at night, far from a telephone.

"These people from Ampol and BP will not let us use the telephone. We have to run all the way to Stuart Highway to get help," complains Patrick. "I reckon Bernie Valadian is not doing the good job for this place. We really want a toyota. Ruby, George, Jimmy and Harold here with one leg, how can they get around? We want to go hunting and get firewood" Patrick has finished his story and goes over to the huts. Terry turns out the lights in the shed.



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LATE NEWS.... INQUEST INTO SKELETONS DUG UP BY CASINO AT MINDIL BEACH TO BEGIN ON APRIL 8th BUT WILL PROBABLY BE ADJOURNED AGAIN. CASINO HAS BEEN "CURSED" BY MOST POWERFUL ABORIGINAL "MAGIC". CASINO HAS DISTURBED ABORIGINAL BURIAL GROUND.....
BUNJI is published by Bill Day of Kalalak Beach, coconut grove NT.Box 3743 darwin NT

FORTY DOLLAR FINE FOR HOLDING A CAN OF BEER!

On March 18th the magistrate fined four men \$40 each for drinking in a public place. The police said the men were holding a can of beer in a park near the YMCA. The men come from a group who are complaining to the City Council. Batatji, Michael Baluka and other men from east Arnhem Land said, "If we had a place to go, we would not drink in a public place." "We have no-where else to go so you see us in a public place." The men are not happy about the new law coming to make it illegal to drink in public places within two kilometers of a licensed premises.

Aborigines petition council for camps

A group of 28 Aborigines has protested to Darwin City Council about a lack of camps in the city and proposed changes to liquor consumption legislation.

ABOVE. HEADLINE FROM THE STORY IN THE NT NEWS 12/2/82

The men from east Arnhem land said....

"This new law tries to make us hide in the bush and drink like fifteen years ago. We dont want this. "We dont want your new law and if you gave us a place you would not need this new law."

Kulaluk and Bagot are private land, but these men said in their letter,

"We have rules which you cant see , that say we cant go to these places."

Batatji and Baluka told the City Council,

"YOU WILL MAKE A LOT OF TROUBLE AND FILL BERRIMAH PRISON."

1962 Aborigines began fight for justice

The News reported on January 6 that for the first time a group of NT Aborigines had banded together in their own organisation to "fight for equality and justice". The NT Council for

Aboriginal Rights was led by: president - Jacob Roberts, secretary - Davis Daniel, treasurer - Don White, all of whom were full-blood Aboriginal citizens. Mr Roberts said: "We

have long wanted to organise to help fight for our own rights and people.

"I and others of us have full rights already, but we do not intend to sit back and leave it at

that."

Among the aims of the organisation were:

Equal pay for equal work; generally increased wages; a more advanced educational system for Aboriginal children.

THE LETTER TO THE CITY COUNCIL MENTIONS HOW CONDITIONS WERE FOR ABORIGINES "FIFTEEN YEARS AGO".

IT WAS IN 1964 THAT "FULL BLOOD" Aborigines GOT THE RIGHT TO DRINK IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY.

THE STORY OF OUR FIGHT FOR EQUALITY IS A LONG STRUGGLE. SOMEONE SHOULD WRITE A BOOK ABOUT IT.

HERE ARE TWO SHORT STORIES FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS.

THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES.

Major step taken for 'native' rights 1964

The passing of the Social Welfare Bill on May 21 by the Legislative Council was a major step forward for Aboriginal rights.

The controversial bill was hailed as "the most sweeping reform in native welfare laws in the NT and Australia's history."

The ultimate aim of the bill was to lift discriminatory restrictions against Aborigines which included not being able to drink alcohol and

move freely.

Aborigines had won voting rights the year before and this bill removed the restriction of being a ward of the State.

Powerful opposition to the bill came from the pastoralists who were concerned that equal rights would cost them money but the bill was eventually passed after "one of the most protracted debates ever" without any dissenting votes.

MARCH ON MAY DAY

10am MONDAY MAY 3rd



*Uranium Mining.
What it means to you
- and your family*

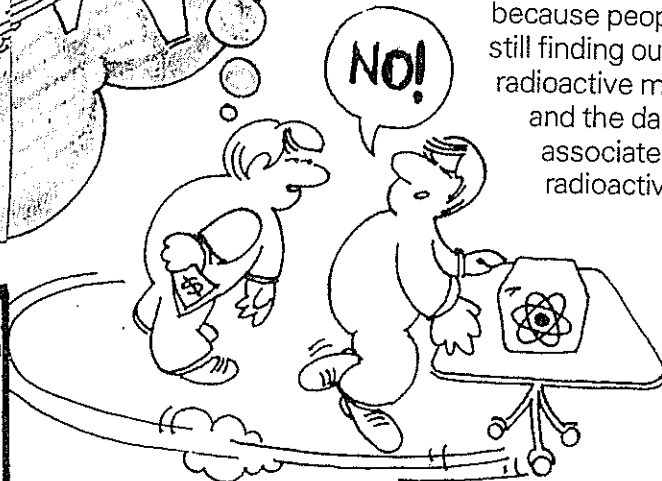
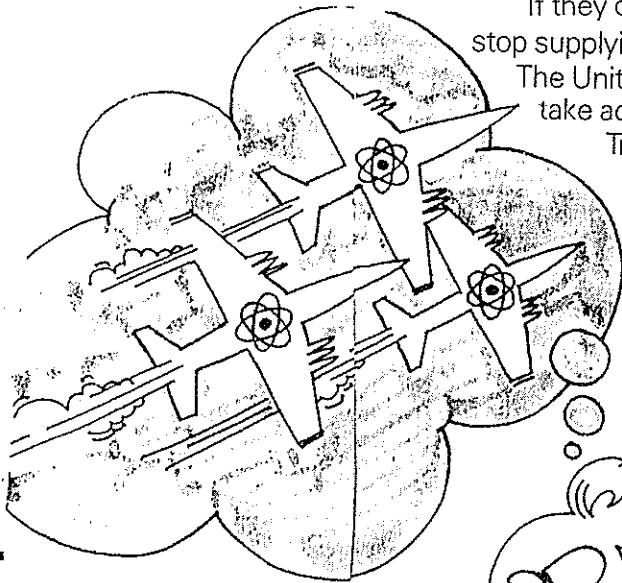
LIES 1978

It is good to consider whether another country buying our uranium might use it to make nuclear weapons. The Government has decided it should not let this happen. Any country buying our uranium must sign international agreements that they will not use it to make weapons, or in power plants to drive warships.

If they do not keep this agreement, we will stop supplying them with uranium. The United Nations, too, would take action.

Trading and other assistance would be stopped if a country broke such an agreement.

In past years, mistakes were made with uranium mining, because people were still finding out about radioactive materials and the dangers associated with radioactivity.



Companies who begin uranium mining operations in Australia will have to comply with strict safety measures

PAGE 22 OF A BOOK
GIVEN TO YOLNU PEOPLE
BY NT MINES DEPARTMENT
IN 1978, CALLED
"URANIUM MINING,
WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY"
SEE THE TRUTH, NEXT PAGE.

URANIUM MINES WILL BE SAFE, SAID THE MINERS. BUT THERE WERE TROUBLES WITH NARBARLEK AND RANGER IN 1981.

When water escaped from the Narbarlek Mine area into Coopers Creek in March last year the mining company did not tell the Aboriginal people or the Government what had happened. When the Northern Land Council officers found out they asked the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Governments to take action.

Aboriginal people were worried that the water in Coopers Creek was poisoned. The Northern Territory Government has told the NLC that the water is all right.

Then in November last year there was not enough water covering the radioactive tailings in the Ranger Tailings dam, so the Northern Territory Government closed it. When the mining company agreed to keep the tailings covered all the time so they would be all right, the Department of Mines and Energy let them get going again.

Because of these and other problems in the West Arnhem Land area the NLC has not been happy with the way the N.T. or the Commonwealth Governments have been looking after the land and the things that live in it; the thing they call the environment; the thing the Aboriginal people need more than anything else.

ABOVE: STORY FROM THE NORTHERN LAND COUNCIL NEWS, FEBRUARY 1982

TRUTH

1982

Aboriginal people have always said no to uranium mines. Today PANCON is forcing the tribes to sign for the biggest-ever new mines.

Our uranium will be used in bombs and weapons. (see below)

Plutonium for military power

RONALD Reagan's Administration plans to make nuclear weapons from plutonium from nuclear power stations.

If this takes place, where does that leave Australian uranium export policy?

For about 30 years America has had an Atoms-for-Peace policy. This meant that commercial and military nuclear technologies were to remain separate.

Australia exported NT uranium under the Atoms-for-Peace policy. Prime Minister Fraser apparently believed America could be trusted.

Of course, President Reagan may still prove to be a man of honour; some Presidents have been.

But don't hold your breath!

JACK HUNT

ABOVE: STORY FROM DARWIN STAR 16/1/82

'The most compelling uranium film yet shot'



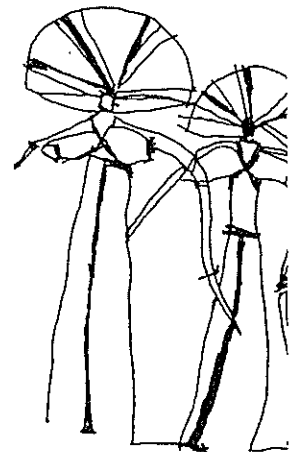
"SACRIFICE AREA" a film by Otto Schuurman, Holland 1980, 16 mm colour 1 hour.

Otto Schuurman was in the Black Hills of South Dakota for last year's Survival Gathering. Out of that visit, and trips he and his team made to uranium areas in the south-west, has come perhaps the most compelling - and moving - film testimony on the effects of uranium mining, yet made.

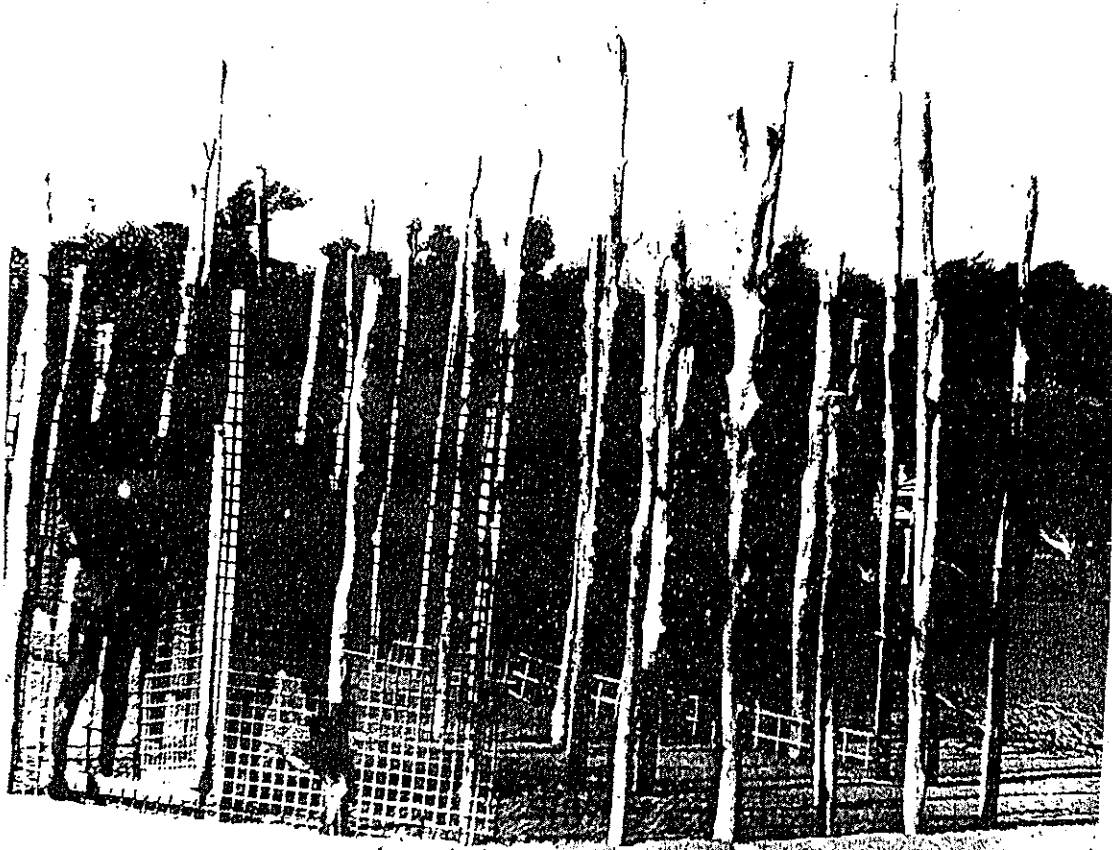
Interviews with Winona La Duke, Russell Means and other native Americans are inter-cut with footage on the massive uranium tailings spill on the Rio Puerco; the Navajo hospital where cancer victims are taken dying; Navajo families living in shacks next to mine-vents spewing deadly radon. There is bitter-sweet poetry from an Indian poet; student determination from Frank Pools Crow, as he declares he will return to the Paha Sapa, or die.

Etched on my mind is the scene taken in Las Vegas at night, where the neon of the gambling dens and high-class brothels burns with the bones of native people. For it is they who lie buried in the uranium land that feeds the plants, that make the power. It is difficult after this, to believe that white America can ever save itself. (R.H.)

"SACRIFICE AREA" is available from CIMRA/Natural Peoples News at £25 hire.



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FISH TRAP FUND

Down on Kulaluk Beach, at Bagot Outstation, we have a fish trap. A small part of it is shown in the photo above. When the tide goes out, fish, crabs and stingrays are caught in the cage. The trap has helped provide healthy food for starving people. It also gives the kids something interesting to do and teaches them about sea foods. Each year we must pay fifty dollars license fee. This year we need two rolls of new wire. The old wire has rusted away and has been damaged in storms.

Altogether we are trying to raise \$300. If you can help, send us a cheque for our fish trap fund. During the year we will keep you informed on how our fish trap is working. Thankyou, we hope to hear from you.

Dear Readers,

The headline of the first issue of BUNJI for 1982 was "TROUBLE AHEAD". This is already true. The NT Government has tried to pass laws to stop land claims and to stop sacred sites protection. Paul Everingham has attacked the Northern Land Council and the Sacred Sites Protection Authority. The Government is alienating land before tribes can claim it and continues to try and block the Kenbi Claim. Gerry Blitner said in the paper, "It is time the Chief Minister realised that Aborigines are people and Australians."

Your donations are welcome - keep us going in this important year.

pg
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letters

Dear Sir;

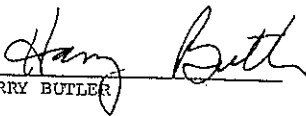
As I undertook in my letter of the 16th December I brought forward the matter of the Conservation Commission's bulldozers working on Kulaluk land in October last year.

My advice at the Commission was that permission had been sought and granted from Mr. Albert Treeves. However, following discussions with apparently yourself and Fred Fogarty the Commission has undertaken that it will not enter on the land until such time as a request is formally broached from the Kulaluk formal representatives.

Thus I have taken the matter as far as I can, and can assure you that there will be no further incursions on the land unless it is with the full co-operation and coordination of the people who own and control the land.

Hoping this is satisfactory,

Yours sincerely,


HARRY BUTLER

P.S. I noted your journalistic comment attached to my letter and agree with it. Promises and writings don't bring back what is gone, but I believe that in this instance the Commission's officers acted in good faith and the blame is not with them, if blame is to be apportioned, but to the divided nature of the people controlling the area, and the activities of your Mr. Treeves.

Obviously it is very important to clarify this sort of situation so that the people speak with one voice, not with many.



Dear BUNJI,

I was sent a copy of your magazine and was delighted with many of the subjects you dealt with, and the presentation.

I especially enjoyed your item titled "NO Dumping on Kulaluk Land".

Please continue to send me your paper.

Allan Steel

Adult Education, Ngukurr NT.

Dear BUNJI,

I was in Darwin recently and saw a copy of your magazine. I was quite impressed. The magazine would be useful to pass on to Aboriginal people in South Australia and I would like to receive copies by mail.

P. Fitzpatrick

Aboriginal Heritage Section S.A.

Dear Friends,

I am writing to enquire about an issue which has become of the utmost importance to South Australian Aboriginal prisoners.

During a recent meeting, several Aboriginal people expressed their concern that while in jail, they were unable to attend the funerals of members of their kinship group. I would like to hear from Aboriginal peoples about the situation in their homeland and of other opinions.

We will then talk with Aboriginal people with a hope for a resolution to this problem.

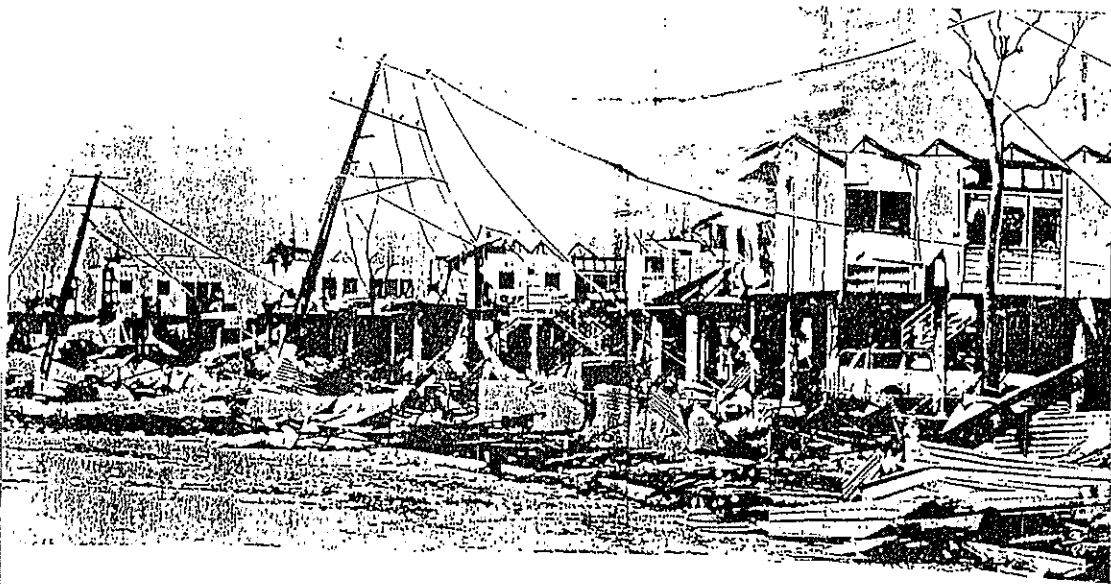
Sharon Mengersen
for Campaign Against Racial Exploitation
South Australia.

Dear BUNJI,

I thought the latest issue of BUNJI was excellent. I'm hoping to have a play on the death of Phillip Robertson printed soon- local theatre companies dont want to touch it. Scared the Everingham government will cut their funds.

John Tomlinson, Darwin.

Note. Phillip died after being bashed by prison officers in Darwin Hospital. ED. Pg 7



SACRED SITES - OLD MAN ROCK PROTECTED

Cyclone Tracy smashed Darwin to pieces. The Larrakia say that this cyclone was made by the anger of Daribah Nungalinya, or 'old man rock'.

If this old man is disturbed he gets very angry. For thousands of years, our people have told the story of "old man rock". He sits in the sea, out from Casuarina Beach. No one should damage this rock in any way by chipping off shellfish, turning over stones or drilling holes. It is the body of a powerful ancestor.

One hundred and thirteen years ago, white settlement began in Larrakia country. At last settlers have decided to recognise and protect Daribah Nungalinya!

There will be a sign explaining how important the rock is to Aboriginal people and warning visitors to Casuarina Beach of the dangers of damaging the site.

EVERINGHAM HATES ASSPA

It is the ABORIGINAL SACRED SITES PROTECTION AUTHORITY (ASSPA) which is trying to save sacred sites like Old Man Rock. They can declare a place a "protected site" under the Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1978.

The ASSPA would like to help all people who ask for help. But this year the ASSPA has only been given half of the money it needs. Bob Ellis is the Director. He says the authority cannot keep going if it does not get more money.

Paul Everingham is trying to make the law weaker and stop the registering of sacred sites. Even a sacred tree or rock is bad for this government. Anything that gets in the way of a bulldozer is a nuisance for this government.

Paul Everingham wants to be free to smash sacred rocks, trees, hills, caves, waterholes, anything. How sad that after more than one hundred years of white settlement, we cannot live together in respect of the wonderful things in this great and ancient land!

WE WANT MORE PROTECTION FOR SACRED SITES, NOT LESS.

** Costless Printing, Darwin*