

Glossed text: Making soap on a cattle farm

See p. 249-250 in:

Schultze-Berndt, Eva & Meakins, Felicity & Angelo, Denise. 2013. Kriol. In: Michaelis, Susanne Maria & Maurer, Philippe & Haspelmath, Martin & Huber, Magnus (eds.) *The Survey of Pidgin and Creole Languages, Vol. I: English-based and Dutch-based languages*, 241-251. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

This is a short extract from a longer account (told to Eva Schultze-Berndt in Kriol, Ngarinyman and Jaminjung) by the late Eileen Roberts Nangala and the late Dolly Badbarriya Nangala of their tasks as young women on cattle stations in the Victoria River region, when Aboriginal people worked as stockmen and domestic labourers for little or no wages. At the time of the recording (1999), both speakers lived in Bulla, 270km west of Katherine, Northern Territory; both had mostly lived on Auvergne Station in the vicinity before Bulla was established in the 1960s. Eileen Roberts, the main speaker in this segment, was of Ngarinyman descent and was 65–70 years old at the time of the recording, and Dolly Badbarriya was of Gajerrabeng descent and was approximately 70–75 years old. Transcription and translation is by Eva Schultze-Berndt.¹ The text is published here with permission of Eileen Robert's descendants.

ER: [...] *En soup ai bin oldei meik-im-bat soup *
[...] and soap 1SG PST HAB make-TR-PROG soap
[...] And I used to make soap,

*meik-im-bat, mijelb *
make-TR-PROG self
make it, by myself.'

(interruption)

¹ The following transcription conventions are used: Elements from Ngarinyman (a locative marker and an uninflected verb) are marked by underline. A line in the transcription represents an intonation unit. Final (falling) intonation contour is marked by a backslash (\), a non-final intonation contour by a comma (,). Iconic (i.e. expressive rather than phonemic) lengthening of a segment is marked by a sequence of colons (::). Short pauses are marked by a sequence of dots (..).

ER: *Joup! Joup ai bin meik-im.. bi:g-wan ..dram-gula² *
soap soap 1SG PST make-TR big-ADJ drum-LOC
Soap! Soap I made in a big drum,

miks-im na::, bil-im-ap dram-gula
mix-TR SEQ fill-TR-up drum-LOC
mixed it, filled it into a drum,

*en katim-katim na alibala *
and cut:TR-RED SEQ morning
and cut it up the next morning,

*gata gajiwata mijelb, soup *
with gassing.soda self soap
(made it) with gassing soda, by myself, soap.

(interruption by clarification question)

DB: *Wi bin oldei meik-im-bat ron sop, yuno *
we PST HAB make-TR-PROG own soap you.know
We used to make our own soap, you know.

ER: *Soup! washing soap ai bin meik-im *
soap washing soap 1SG PST make-TR
Soap, I made washing soap!

DB: *Bla guluj *
for clothes
For clothes.

ER: *Yu put-um gajiwata, yu put-um resel,*
you put-TR caustic.soda you put-TR resol
You add caustic soda, you add resol/resin,

² *-gula* is one of the locative case markers in Ngarinyman.

put-um fet,
put-TR fat
add fat,

*ani yu miks-im na, gata gajiwata *
ADVERS 2SG mix-TR SEQ with gassing.soda
but you mix it then, with gassing soda,

meik-im stiki-wan, en teik-im-at na,
make-TR sticky-ADJ and take-TR-out SEQ
make it sticky, and take it out then,

*put-im la dram *
put-TR LOC drum
(and) put it in a drum.

DB: *Kapjaid-im *
capsize-TR
Turn it over.

ER: *Kapjaid-im *
capsize-TR
Turn it over.

kat-im na:::, wan im drai na, kat-i:::m,
cut-TR SEQ when 3SG dry SEQ cut-TR
Cut it, when it is dry,

liv-im la san,
leave-TR LOC sun
cut it and leave it in the sun,

rait, mibala bin oldei teik-im walyag la shop na,
right 1PL.EXCL PST HAB take-TR inside LOC shop SEQ
right, we used to take it into the shop then

fo .. *sel-im* *na* \
for sell-TR SEQ
to sell it.

ole boi bin oldei kam get-im joup fo wosh-im kloth,
PL boy PST HAB come get-TR soap for wash-TR clothes
The (stock) boys used to come and get soap to wash their clothes,

from thokkem, penjene, evrithing \
from stock.camp pensioners everything
(people) from the stockcamp, pensioners, all of them.