Escape from Fanny Bay Gaol

Story 06.45 – 08.04 by Patrick Tyabada talks about an Aboriginal man who escaped from Fannie Bay Gaol twice simply by jumping the fence.
Recorded at Peppimenarti about in late September 1988. Present: Tyimiliny, Robert Daly and Patrick Tyabada. Speaker: Patrick Tyabada.

1   Tyamirri, mipurr wunggume Fannie Bay nimbi diny fel, yeniny pap perrik exercise yard
    Well, this certain bloke escaped from Fannie Bay Gaol by climbing the fence in the exercise

2   nide. Yedi lali tye, yerr nyin dinyirri perrik, 'Ep' meny, 'ngana felfil',
    yard. He'd been wandering around, sizing up that fence, 'Maybe' he said to himself 'I could jump this'.

3   Dagum felfil nyin nimbi diny fel wakay! Peyendi wamumu wunnine fifili tye werrminy tip.
    He raced up, and just jumped right out of there! The police searched around that place for him, and re-arrested him.

4   Wuddum miwul court nide, judge nyin dam tyerrpu 'Ityi yiminy pefi yiriny fel?', menyne.
    They brought him back to the court, and the judge asked him. 'So how did you escape?', he said.

5   'Tyepe nganam felfil ngiriny fel perrik nyinnin'. 'Minbe wurru gintyi-fel', menyne.
    'Oh I just took a run up and jumped the fence'. 'You couldn't possibly have jumped it!'.

6   'Nginifiny ngumumbi'. 'Ngudinyi miwul pe wunendi Fannie Bay, yangirr du pe
    'I'm telling you the truth'. 'Well I'm taking you back to Fannie Bay Gaol, and you can

7   dede nyin ngani kide yiriny fel'. Warrgantyi tye Fannie Bay exercise yard nide, 'Kide pefi
    show us there just how you escaped!'. So they took him back to the exercise yard at Fannie

8   yiriny fel?' wirrminyne. 'Kinyi pefi'. 'Ityi yumu gumu?', wirrminy ne,
    Bay Gaol. 'Where'd you jump out?'. 'Over here'. 'Show us what you did' they told him.

9   Dagum felfil, diny fel madiyeninggi nyin wakay! Mumba tyamennapa
    So he ran up and jumped straight over to the other side again! And (as they'd neglected to

10   darany filirr! Minbe nyine tye wanna garri pat!
    post a guard on the outside) he hit the road for good! They never caught up with him!