Birrugan’s Journey South

As soon as Birrugan got home, he got word from Arakoon. ‘Come on, there’s a big war on over here! Buulmay, they call it. They’re cleaning up all our men.’ He left red clay on the fork of the camp. (H.B.)

Birrugan’s mother, seeing the weapon painted red, guesses that there will be a battle.

Where are you going, Birrugan?

Oh, I’m off to a war.

Oh, yes.

He points to the red clay he has left on the fork of his mother’s hut:

Good bye! Keep watching this red ochre! [if something happens to me, it will fall]]

Well then, Birrugan hurried to the battle. So he took a short cut towards Gumma. Across [the Nambucca River] he went and then across [Warrell Creek.] He crossed [the Macleay] and ran a little along [the Smoky Cape Range.] Along that range to the South of Arakoon he went till he reached Arakoon. There the demons summoned him.