

# PLAINS OF MARALINGA

*Alistair Hulett (1991)*

Verse

The Verse consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff contains four measures with chords C, F, C, D, and G. The second staff contains four measures with chords C, F, C, G, and C, ending with a double bar line and repeat signs. The melody is written in treble clef.

Chorus

The Chorus consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff contains four measures with chords C, D, G, and F. The second staff contains four measures with chords C, G, and C, ending with a double bar line and repeat signs. The melody is written in treble clef.

Verse 1: Remember in the old days how we sucked up to the Poms.  
We stood and sang their anthem like a pack of Uncle Toms.  
And they bought our beef and wool, so we let them test their bombs  
In the heartland of Australia where the black-skinned nation roams.

Verse 2: There was nothing in the papers about what was being done.  
If Robert Menzies knew, by Christ, he wasn't letting on  
For he loved his flamin' knighthood, that great Australian son,  
Much more than he loved the land where the Pitjantjatjara run.

Chorus: F C  
Out on the plains of Maralinga  
D G  
What happened there was a bloody disgrace.  
F C  
Out on the plains of Maralinga  
G C  
It was total disregard for the black Australian race.

Verse 3: No one asked the local people if they thought it was okay.  
If you haven't got a job, mate, you haven't got a say.  
Oh, and if we lost a few, they were only in the way.  
If they'd been white, then bet your backside there'd be holy shit to pay.

Verse 4: They said fallout was harmless, they knew that was a lie  
But it never slowed them up when there were people down close by  
Who tell a story how they saw a big flash in the sky.  
Then they all got sick and one by one began to slowly die.

Chorus: Out on the plains of Maralinga  
What happened there was a bloody disgrace.  
Out on the plains of Maralinga  
It was total disregard for the black Australian race.

Verse 5: Now the sun set on the Empire though they never thought it would,  
And now your Uncle Sam controls the neighbourhood  
And in the name of peace and justice, he swears he's Robin Hood  
But in Chile and El Salvador, the truth is understood.

Verse 6: He's got bureaucrats and technocrats, diplomats and spies  
Working for the Pentagon, they're its bloody nose and eyes  
But you only feel disheartened until you realise,  
When the workers of the world unite, we're twice their bloody size.

Chorus: Out on the plains of Maralinga  
What happened there was a bloody disgrace.  
Out on the plains of Maralinga  
It was total disregard for the black Australian race.

