

NATIVE SENT TO GAOL

Darwin, Friday

The aboriginal strike leader, Lawrence, was today sentenced to four months' imprisonment with hard labor.

Sentencing Lawrence, Mr. J. H. King, S.M., said: "The Crown Law Department might well consider taking action against other persons who may have been behind the strike, particularly Mr. Peel."

[Mr. T. (Yorky) Peel is the acting secretary of the Communist-dominated North Australian Workers' Union.]

Lawrence had been charged that by threats he interfered with the rights of an aborigine Jacky to continue his lawful occupation.

Lawrence told the court that he had made no threats to Jacky, and had not threatened to hit him.

Earlier Constable McFarlane, who broke up the march into town and arrested Lawrence, said that Lawrence told him that a native called Fred had started the strike.

McFarlane said Lawrence admitted he had started last month's strike, but said that Fred had started this one because Yorky said that Fred could read and write and talk better than him.

Lawrence had said that Yorky told him: "You boys got to get all those boys and women out of town. No more half and half. That way people going to beat you."