

# 'War' threat among Darwin aborigines

**D**ARWIN, Friday.—A threat to start a "war" between Darwin town aborigines and the Berrimah reserve aborigines was made during the hearing of a case in the police court today following the aboriginal "march" on Darwin on Wednesday.

Lawrence, leader of an aborigine strike, was charged with having used threats to interfere with the right of another aboriginal, Mickey, to continue his employment.

The "war" threat was made by Jacky, a former police tracker.

During cross-examination he said: 'Lawrence is a proper bad man. I take my town soldiers and make war with Lawrence soldiers. I got big mob soldiers.'

Other aboriginal witnesses said that Lawrence had threatened to use his "soldiers" to get them to knock off work and go to Berrimah reserve, three miles from Darwin. However, they said, the threat was never carried out.

Micky said that while he

was at work on Tuesday, Lawrence told him he should go to Berrimah with him. Micky replied that he was working and would stay where he was. Lawrence then said he would bring his "soldiers." Asked what for, Lawrence replied, "You'll see bye and bye."

No soldiers arrived.

Micky added that he was not frightened of Lawrence.

Police said they arrested Lawrence on Wednesday when he was with a party of 30 aborigines carrying sticks and iron bars.

The magistrate (Mr. Crang) dismissed the charge.

A second similar charge against Lawrence was adjourned to next Wednesday. Bail was allowed.

Another aboriginal, Billy Palata, arrested when police broke up the mob of 30 armed abori-

gines with Lawrence, was sentenced to a month's hard labor on a charge of having hindered Constable McFarlane.

Evidence was that Billy pushed McFarlane in the back and bumped him while McFarlane was placing Lawrence in the police car after Lawrence's arrest.