

'Direct action' urged on land

MILITANT aboriginal leaders have started a new campaign for native land rights.

Mr Bruce McGuinness, co-director of the Aborigines Advancement League (Victoria), and Mr Bob Maza, president of the League, demonstrated outside Parliament House yesterday, (at right).

They are members of the "Action for Land Rights" movement.

The movement is part of an Australian wide campaign planning direct action on aboriginal land rights in the months before the Senate election.

"We're not asking for land to be given back," Mr McGuinness said.

"We are demanding that aboriginal ownership be recognised.

"We will lay claim to selected areas in Victoria, including Corranderk, near Healesville, and the Murray and Goulburn Valleys.

"Sit-ins may also be staged at public buildings like Parliament House.

"As yet, no blood has been spilled in the fight for aboriginal land rights.

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"Our movement aims to cripple big industrialists who are commercialising aboriginal lands and not even using aboriginal labor."

Mr McGuinness said that too few aboriginals bothered to take action in defence of their rights.

One of the aims of the new campaign would be to create a socially and economically independent organisation of militant aboriginals.

"We hope to embarrass the government and give the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation some overtime."



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