

Students ready to aid

'embassy'

About 20 young people, mostly Australian National University students, were at the Aboriginal "embassy" last night to protect the embassy if police attempted to remove it in the early morning.

They are acting in the belief that the Trespass on Commonwealth Land Ordinance 1972, under which the five-tent "embassy" will be removed by the police, will be gazetted today.

They believe that, if that happens, the police may move in at any time from midnight to remove the encampment.

Under the ordinance, the encampment can be removed if it is unoccupied for two hours.

One of the group at the "embassy", Mr Stephen Padgham, said that Canberra people hoping to defend the "embassy" had agreed that, on hearing that the tents were about to be moved by police,

they would telephone five friends who in turn would telephone five others.

The system would enable a large number of people to get to the "embassy" in a short time.

Attended TLC meeting

A spokesman said last night that a two-man delegation from the "embassy" had attended an ACT Trades and Labour Council meeting last night.

The spokesman said the meeting had voted to give the "embassy" \$75 and had adopted a resolution expressing 'disgust' and opposition to any plan to remove the "embassy" and to the gazetting of the Trespass on Commonwealth Land Ordinance

while Parliament was not in session.

The resolution had also recommended that unions support protest action affiliated to the council against removal of the "embassy".

Aboriginal leader Mrs Faith Bandler said yesterday she would support the organisers of the "embassy" "when they most needed extra help".

Mrs Bandler, who is president of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders, arrived in Canberra yesterday to present the British Broadcasting Corporation's film 'The Black Australians' at the ANU.

She said that the "embassy" should be allowed to stay "as a centre for discussion".

tendency abroad to lump Australia in with other countries with a bad reputation for the ill-treatment of minority ethnic groups.

Dr Coombes said he was concerned at the degree of truth involved.

Dr Coombes said the Aboriginal "embassy" was essentially a short-term measure. In the long term Aborigines would have to find other ways to communicate with the Government.

PERTH, Wednesday. — The Chairman of the Council of Aboriginal Affairs, Dr H. C. Coombes, expressed concern today about Australia's image overseas because of its treatment of Aborigines.

At a press conference in Perth he said there was a