

Probe aboriginals' plight, says Nader

WASHINGTON, Mon., AAP. — Consumer advocate Ralph Nader has called for a United Nations investigation of the plight of aboriginals in Australia and Indians in South America.

Nader, who visited Australia earlier this month, said in his weekly column that Indians were being slaughtered by whites in Brazil and Colombia.

In Australia the aboriginals had suffered similar fates in the past, though in recent years their population had been recovering, he said.

"On the main Australian continent, the condition of the various tribes is worse than that of the

American Indians — or poorest Americans," he said.

"In Australia, tribes do not have ownership of minerals on their reservations and live in desperate poverty and disease."

Nader said that a fact-finding commission of American Indians should travel to South America and Australia to observe the situation, and the United Nations should begin an investigation under its charter.