

Militants are testing explosives — Aboriginal

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Militant Aborigines were experimenting with explosives in Sydney, a representative of the "Aboriginal Embassy" in Canberra, Mr John Newfong, said yesterday.

He said many Aborigines were fed up with talking and trying to get a better deal through political channels.

Because of this, young black radicals were less likely to be restrained by their elders.

There was already talk of guerilla warfare to achieve aims.

Mr Newfong, who was speaking at a luncheon of the Australia Party Tuesday Club, said he felt this warfare would not be aimed at people but could include the blowing-up of bridges.

Mr Newfong is a former secretary of the Federal Council for Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders and was a campaign director for the constitutional referendum on Aborigines. He is a member of an Aboriginal delegation which will visit China next month.

Mr Newfong said he felt that White Australia was being given its last chance to do something definite about Aboriginal land rights and other problems. Aborigines would use much more militant tactics if they did not get quick satisfaction.

It was felt that Aborigines should receive "\$6-billion" compensation for alienation of their land and a yearly percentage of the gross national income. This would be cheap recompense for use of the land for 200 years.

There were high hopes that the Northern Territory could be made into an Aboriginal State by constitutional means.

If such a State was achieved and did not receive proper support from the Federal Government it could withdraw



Mr Newfong

from the Commonwealth, and even form a liaison with New Guinea.

Mr Newfong said Aborigines would conduct campaigns in electorates where their votes could be a deciding issue at the Federal elections.

These electorates were Kennedy and Herbert in Queensland, Gwydir in NSW and the Northern Territory.

The Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign, which has previously directed all its funds overseas, announced yesterday that it was giving \$54,600 with the general aim of helping to fight malnutrition among Aborigines.

The money represents about 5 per cent of the campaign's grants for the year.

The Aboriginal Advancement Association at Bourke will receive \$29,600 of the grant to employ two Aborigines as full-time liaison officers and to provide them with a mini-bus.

The other \$25,000 will go to the Institute for Aboriginal Development at Alice Springs, which has set up a centre to train Aboriginal women in hygiene and mothercraft.