Court says blacks being manipulated

By AILEEN BERRY

Aboriginal groups were being manipulated by callous Europeans who cloaked their racial hatred in "pious championing of human rights", Sir Charles Court said yesterday.

In an obvious, but oblique, reference to the Noonkanbah situation, which is seriously embarrassing his Government, the West Australian Premier said evidence of the manipulation was growing daily.

Sir Charles said the "propaganda machine" which subjected Aboriginal groups to "ideological oppression" was working both inside and outside Australia.

He said a director of the Victorian Aboriginal Health Services, Mr Gary Foley, had revealed the movement's international links in a television interview.

According to Sir Charles, Mr Foley said he had been involved in establishing a propaganda network in Europe, financed by overseas sources which he would not reveal. The network had a permanent office in London, but would soon be extended to the Middle East, Africa and Latin America.

"Those who organise and support these activities have a callous disregard for the minorities whose causes they pretend to champion." he said. "Their motives are far more devious than the pious championing of human rights which they use to cloak their real intentions of causing racial hatred, division and eventually violence."

Sir Charles said it was "heartening" that Aboriginal leaders
were now becoming aware of
these activities and the dangers
they posed for the Aboriginal
people. "These leaders deserve
the full support and understanding of governments, the media
and the Australian people, in
their new resolve to wrest back
from these callous manipulators
the control of Aboriginal groups
in Australia."

Earlier, Sir Charles said he would ask the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, to have "the true story" of Noonkanbah presented to the United Nations. He said the Australian Ambassador in Geneva, Dr Lloyd Thomson, did not go far enough in explaining the situation to the UN sub-commission on the prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities.