

Australia Dossier by Robert Barwick and Allen Douglas

'Land rights' ripping up the country

The most virulent proponents of "land rights" are Jabotinskyite Zionists, and Her Majesty's mining concerns.

Aboriginal land rights, or so-called "native title," is tearing Australia apart: More than 50% of Australia's land is now under claim by Aborigines, and up to 79% is open to claim—claims which are intended to form the basis for a separate Aboriginal nation. As well, parliament may soon be facing a rare "double dissolution" over the issue, which would ensure a national election in as early as four months, which would be a bitter contest almost solely over this issue—that is, unless it is superseded by the ongoing global financial collapse.

The issue of land rights was created by the 1992 "Mabo" and 1996 "Wik" decisions of Australia's High Court, an instrument of the British Crown's Privy Council. The tempo of the conflict has increased dramatically since last December's Wik decision, which stated that pastoral leases, a form of title whereby land is owned by the state, or in Australia's case, the "Crown," and leased to farmers for up to 99 years, did not "extinguish" native title, as had been almost universally presumed, even by land-rights supporters. According to the Wik decision, farmers or miners holding a pastoral lease may be forced to negotiate with Aboriginal native title claimants, *even if their claims are unproven*, during which no development could take place on the claimed area.

To deal with the uncertainty created by Wik, Prime Minister John Howard announced his "10-point plan," whereby some pastoral leases could be upgraded to freehold title, and thus could not be claimed. Howard's plan was heavily amended by the federal Senate and sent back to the

House of Representatives on Dec. 5, despite a rare plea by the prime minister to pass it, in a televised address to the nation on Nov. 30. On Dec. 6, the House rejected the Senate's amendments. The House will re-submit the legislation to the Senate in three months; if the Senate again refuses to pass it without amendment, Howard will likely dissolve both houses and go for national elections.

Even with Howard's 10-point plan, as much as 79% of Australia would still be open to native title claim. Notwithstanding, the self-proclaimed leadership of the Aboriginal people is screaming that the 79% limit is "racist," and "genocidal."

The most vocal among this "leadership" is Aboriginal lawyer and land rights activist Noel Pearson, who labelled Howard "racist scum" and a "moral cockroach." In a September speech to Aboriginal groups, Pearson raved that if the 10-point plan were passed, "I tell you there is no other answer than war."

Pearson is being backed 100% by his employer, the Melbourne law firm Arnold Bloch Leibler, tax-evasion specialists for the richest corporations and individuals in Australia. The firm is headed by Mark Leibler, who has repeatedly attacked Lyndon LaRouche in print and on national television. Leibler chairs the Australia/Israel Jewish Affairs Council, and its journal, the *Australia-Israel Review*, which has proudly emphasized its support for Vladimir Jabotinsky, the notorious Jewish fascist whom Israel's founding father, David Ben Gurion, called "Vladimir Hitler." In 1993, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

forbade Mark Leibler and his brother, Isi, the chairman of the World Jewish Congress, from claiming they were officially speaking for the state of Israel. Not long before Rabin's assassination on Nov. 4, 1995, Isi Leibler issued a rare open letter in which he attacked Rabin and supported the lunatic "settlement movement," which provided Rabin's assassin.

Land rights are also being supported by the two largest mining companies in the world, Rio Tinto and Anglo American Corp., which are cornerstones of the Crown's world minerals cartel, and which have poured hundreds of millions of dollars into promoting the land-rights cause. The idea is simple: the Aborigines get the land, and they then turn it over to the mining giants for the modern equivalent of "firewater and blankets." Rio Tinto's major negotiating partner is Noel Pearson.

Another outspoken "land rights" advocate from the Leibler set is the multi-millionaire mining magnate and Lubavitcher Rabbi "Diamond Joe" Gutnick, the single-largest funder of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's election campaign against Shimon Peres, and a key funder of the settlement-building schemes in Hebron and the West Bank, which have sought to destroy the Mideast peace process. Gutnick's mining empire is controlled by Anglo American's Australian front, Normandy Mining, and Gutnick is threatening to withdraw his considerable financial support for Howard if he goes ahead with his 10-point plan.

Meanwhile, Pearson identified exactly whose law he, and Arnold Bloch Leibler, are defending: "Mabo [native title] is not a product of indigenous law—Mabo comes from the House of Lords! Mabo is a product of this country's British inheritance," he told a Sydney meeting on Oct. 30.