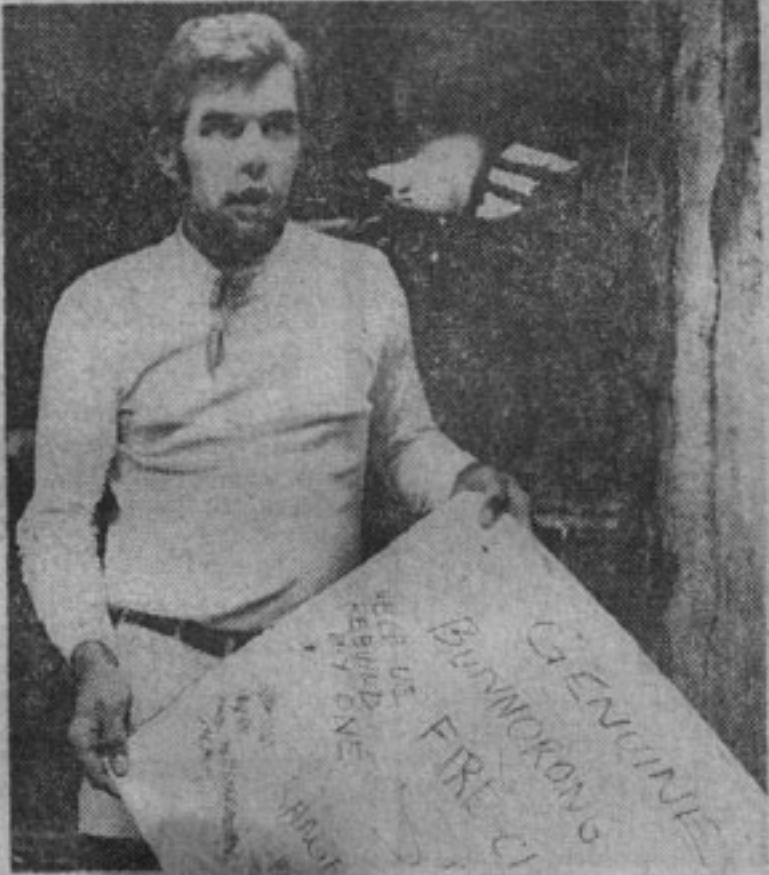


# Fire bombs hit the round-house

Someone threw three milk bottle petrol bombs on to the bush round house of Aboriginal land rights protester Mr. Lin Onus in Sherbrooke Forest while Mr. Onus and three friends were asleep inside early yesterday.



Mr. Onus in the burnt out round-house with a fire-clearance sale poster.

The four men were awakened by the glass shattering on the roof and just got out, losing nearly all their belongings.

The timber hewn round-house where Mr. Onus has lived for the past two months, was burnt to a shell.

The bombs landed on the tarred roof of the log frame dwelling and it caught alight immediately.

Mr. Onus and his friends, awakened by the glass shattering on the roof, got out but saved only a few belongings.

"I'm broke now after fighting this issue for so long and after today I'm scared stiff," Mr. Onus said yesterday as he and his squatter followers walked through the wreckage.

They were trying to establish among themselves whether their protest on the Bunnorong tribe's land rights had actually accomplished anything.

Mr. Onus, a direct descendant of the Winad-Jaire tribe, had dreamed of one day establishing a colony of Aboriginal craftsmen, working and living on 40 acres where the round-house had been put up.

"That's all over for me now. I've run out of money and I have my wife and children to think about," he said.

He was collecting the scorched remnants of tribal artefacts, books and clothing which had been destroyed in the 15-minute blaze.

"If people stoop to bombing a wooden hut with four people inside, then their bigoted, racist minds would stop at nothing," he said.

Inside the round-house when it was put on fire were Mr. Roy Larkin, 24, of Elsternwick; Mr. Peter Bailey, 24, and former president of the Aborigines' Advancement League (Mr. Bob Mazza), 30, of South Yarra.