

BLACK POWER: AID

FROM CHINA?

The Aboriginal Black Power movement had begun negotiations to get financial aid from China, one of the movement's leading activists said in Sydney this week.

"I think we will get a lot of money there," black power leader Mr Gary Foley said.

"We certainly would not have any hang-ups about accepting money from China, because we identify very strongly with China and the Chinese cultural revolution.

"I believe large amounts will also come from black nations.

"We will accept money from anyone, as long as there are no strings attached."

The Black Power movement would use overseas financial aid to gain land rights for Aborigines and to effect "sweeping social changes" in Australia, Mr Foley said.

By GRANT THOMPSON

He said the movement did not plan violence.

"But the changes may lead to violence," he said.

"We want full title to every Aboriginal reserve in the country to be vested in their Aboriginal communities.

"And we want compensation for the loss of our land — initially a lump sum, and from then on, a percentage of the gross national product.

"I would like to see separate development for the whites and the blacks — something like that in South Africa.

"The only thing wrong

with South Africa is that under their system of separatism the whites still exploit the blacks.

"We need to provide an alternative society for Aborigines so they can es-

cape the exploitation of white society."

Mr Foley, also a member of the National Black Theatre, and an actor in its production, "Basically Black," at the Nimrod Theatre, said Black Power in Australia was developing along "awareness making" rather than violent lines.

"We have a good organisation now, but I am not prepared to say how we are organised," he said.

"We were well enough organised to get 1,000 blacks to Canberra for a protest during the August petrol strike.

"We would have had 5,000 or 10,000 if there had not been a petrol strike.

"As I see it now, the Black Theatre has a leading role and dual aims in the movement.

"It is an extension of our political activities.

"It is an awareness-making agent for the black community."