

Aborigines to study in U.S.A.

Five Aboriginal members of the Aborigines Advancement League left Melbourne yesterday on a months' study tour of the U.S.A.

They will study race relations between the Negroes, Indians and Whites.

While in America, they will attend the Congress of African Peoples, to be held over five days in Atlanta, Georgia.

Atlanta was chosen for the conference, because it is the home town of the late Dr Martin Luther King, the Negro Civil Rights leader.

The five League members attending from Australia are Bruce McGuiness, Director of the League; Bob Maza; Patsy Kruger, the new President of the League; Jack Davis, public relations officer of the Aborigines Advancement Council, and Solomon Bellear, a student at Sydney University.

The trip is part-sponsored, each member paying the balance.

The party will fly both ways and plan to visit several major American cities.

Mr McGuiness said last week the five would lecture at a number of American universities.

"We will be studying particularly conditions and race relations at Atlanta University, which has the largest number of negro students," he said.

Self-help program

"We will be interested in the self-help program the U.S. has for negroes.

"It will be our aim to try to introduce these ideas into Australia."

At the Atlanta conference, the party will have discussions and hear lectures on the economics of land, labor and housing, political liberation, social organisation, community organisation, black culture, religion, education and communication.

Mr McGuiness said that in recent years, Americans had become interested in the Australian aborigine.

Most Americans had never seen an aborigine and were keen to hear how they lived and worked.



● MEMBERS of the Aborigines Advancement League — from left, Solomon Bellear, Bruce McGuiness, Jack Davis and Bob Maza — get ready to leave for the U.S.A.