

new federation and opened a cultural center in the eastern part of the island. In a recent letter, Roy Nigerian Harris, leader of the Young Maroons, says, "We seek support to assist our music, our poetry, our sports, our religion, and also our drama. At the moment, we are lacking funds, but our heritage is very rich, and there is a lot owed to us. We are seeking sponsors, who would have a lot to gain. If cultural tours with lectures could be arranged, great."

The Maroons can be contacted at The Maroons Cultural Centre, 12 Harbour Street, Port Antonio, Jamaica, Xaymaca, WI. In the United States, I can be reached c/o 360 62nd Street, Oakland, CA 94618. Music of the Maroons is available on Folkways Records, 43 W. 61st St., N.Y., N.Y. 10023.

—Randi Kristensen

Caribs From Three Groups Meet In Dominica

Throughout the Caribbean there is an increasing awareness of indigenous concerns. According to the newspaper *Iere*, Carib representatives from Belize, St. Vincent and Dominica met in the spring in Dominica and called for more governmental recognition of Carib culture and identity. Like the Maroons in Jamaica, Caribs are descended from Indians and Africans who banded together in resistance to colonial European society.

Caribs living in Dominica maintain a local government Carib Council headed by the Carib Chief, who is elected directly by the people, according to tradition. However, the representative from St. Vincent at the conference spoke of the lack of such structures on his island and expressed concern about the disappearance of the culture of St. Vincent's estimated 5,600 Caribs. "We would like when the gap is filled and we are together as one people," he said. Another conference is planned on St. Vincent next year with the theme "Caribbean Indigenous Revival."



AOTEAROA

Maori Delegation Visits United States

In June a delegation of seven Maori from Aotearoa (also known as New Zealand) traveled to the United States. They were hosted in the San Francisco Bay Area by Women of All Red Nations and the International Indian Treaty Council. Hinewhare Harawira of the Wailangi Action Committee told SAIIC:

We have about 3.5 million people in Aotearoa and 300,000 are Maori. We are fighting for our independence.

We don't now have control of our lands. And one thing we find important as a first step in our independence is the taking back of our lands. The way we want to do it is not by

