

Defection 'shows NT croneyism'

The defection of Mr Bob Liddle, from the NT Nationals to the CLP this week is more evidence of the croneyism which characterises the NT Government, the Opposition Leader, Mr Terry Smith, said.

Mr Smith was commenting on remarks made by Mr Liddle in a front page story printed in Wednesday's *Centralian Advocate*.

Mr Liddle said: "The NT Nationals will now probably always be on the fringe of politics and it does not suit my political or business interests to be on the outer."

Mr Smith said it was obvious Mr Liddle, a mining consultant, was one of those people who saw membership of the CLP as a way to provide business opportunities.

"This is typical of the croneyism that worries so many people about Government in the Territory," he said.

Mr Smith also attacked Mr Liddle's record of changing political affiliations.

Path

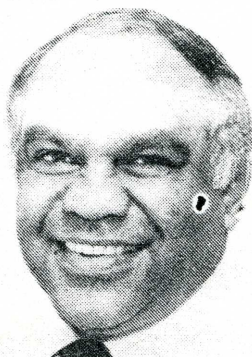
Mr Liddle was first a member of the ALP, then the CLP, before joining the NT Nationals late last year.

"What I'd like to know is where is he going next?" Mr Smith asked.

"If he follows the same path, he'll be back with us next but I can assure him he won't be welcome."

Mr Liddle, an Aborigine and a former professional boxer, is best known for his strong anti-land rights views.

He stood unsuccessfully for the NT House of Representatives seat as an NT National at the July 11 Federal election.



Mr Liddle

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