

BLACK-POWER GUERRILLA WAR

BLACK POWER violence would flare in Australia, aboriginal leaders predicted yesterday.

Their warnings came after a brawl as aboriginals and students tried to stop police tearing down the aboriginal "embassy" tents on the lawns opposite Parliament House in Canberra.

The only aboriginal in Federal Parliament, Senator Neville Bonner (Liberal, Qld.) said he could not see how Black Power violence could be avoided now.

The police action came about 30 minutes after an ordinance banning trespassing on federal lands was gazetted.

Senator Bonner said: "I am disappointed with the Government to the point of being disgusted with its action in this issue."

Aboriginal journalist Mr John Newfong, a former "embassy" leader, said angry aboriginals would turn to guerrilla movements operating underground in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to air their protests.

Help from overseas

He said the U.S. Black Panthers had promised to help Australian guerrillas.

The secretary of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, Mrs Faith Banner, said the council would urge blacks to close ranks and fight on common ground.

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The injured demonstrator, aboriginal Gary Foley, was one of those arrested.

The fight ended when Mr Enderby (Labor, ACT), a lawyer, warned the police over a loud hailer that all the tents had been removed and that they were exceeding their duty.

'Time for action'

The time had come when guerrilla action "ought to be discussed," Mrs Banner said.

A team of about 50 ACT police tore down five of the "embassy" tents and put them into trailers.

As they moved to the last "Chancery" tent, students and aboriginals called to the scene moved to stop them.

Eight people, including five aboriginals, were arrested.

Seven police and one demonstrator were hurt.

Fingers broken

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Another Labor MP, Mr Bryant (Wills), was also involved in the incident when he pushed a policeman to protect a demonstrator.

He later described police action over the "embassy" as a "jack-boot job."

The Interior Minister, Mr Hunt, last night said the police had acted with a "great degree of tolerance."

He said the ordinance had not been directed against the aboriginal people, but was to "rectify a defect" in the laws covering trespassing on Commonwealth land.

Mr Hunt said: "We

had a responsibility to alter this defect.

"It has taken us some time to draft the ordinance."

Mr Hunt said on ABC TV he only took a brief look at the "embassy" yesterday.

"If I had known there would be violence I would have been there," he said.

The Minister said he had been told the demonstrators started the disturbance.

"They tried to stop the police executing their duty," he said.

Senator Keefe (Labor, Qld.) yesterday sent a strongly worded telegram to the Prime Minister, Mr McMahon, protesting against the police action at the "embassy."

In the message, he said

the Prime Minister's action in allowing the removal of the "Embassy" was "one of the most despicable and racist attitudes ever adopted by the Prime Minister of any country."

He challenged Mr McMahon to issue a public statement on the matter and to indicate publicly if he proposed to "continue persecution of aboriginals in every field."

The Senate Opposition Leader, Senator Murphy, gave notice yesterday that the ALP would move for the disallowance of the ordinance.

"In the debate, the real reasons why the Government has used this ordinance against the aboriginals can be exposed," he said.

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