

# ABORIGINES ARRESTED

**EIGHT demonstrators were arrested in Canberra today as ACT police dragged down the Aboriginal tent embassy outside Parliament House.**

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## **'TENT EMBASSY' PULLED DOWN**

Of the eight arrested, five were Aborigines — four men and one woman.

Police pulled down four smaller tents of the "embassy," and then clashed violently with about 70 Aboriginal and student demonstrators ringed around the main tent.

The demonstrators were dragged away bodily.

The eight arrested were locked in police vans.

The move by police followed the gazettal this morning of an ACT ordinance prohibiting the Aborigines from camping on Commonwealth property.

About 50 police tore down the tents which had been on the lawns outside Parliament House since January.

The tents and equipment belonging to the demonstrators were loaded on to a police trailer and driven away.

Fifteen carloads of police arrived outside Parliament House only half an hour after the ordinance had been gazetted.

The demonstrators were informed by the police that the tents would not be allowed to stay on the lawn.

As police removed the smaller tents, demonstrators linked arms three-deep around the main tent and chanted slogans.

Inspector Osborne, of the ACT Police, asked the protesters to move away from the main tent, and warned them that if they resisted, they would be arrested for obstructing police.

An Aboriginal spokesman told the police the demonstrators would do everything they could to defend their "Embassy."

Police then fought with the demonstrators as they dragged them away from the tent, pulled it down and loaded it into a police van.

The fight ended when Labor MP for the ACT, Mr K. E. Enderby, a lawyer, warned police over a loud hailer that the tent had been removed and that they were exceeding their duty.

The demonstrators then stopped resisting, and the brawl broke up.

The Aborigines claim they will erect another tent embassy outside Parliament House this afternoon.