THE AGE



Melbourne's Aboriginal community has accused the Victoria Police of a two-month campaign of intimidation and harassment.

"If it keeps up something bad might happen," community leaders warned yesterday.

The Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service says it has received at least 10 complaints a week from

least 10 complaints a week from blacks who allege "heavy-handedness and selective arrest".

The co-ordinator of Victoria's Aboriginal Health Service, Mr. Gary Foley, said the Federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Mr. Chaney, had called for a report from the department's report from the department's Melbourne office.

The Victoria Police's internal investigations branch, B11, will inquire into the allegations.

Tension within the Fitzroy-Collingwood Aboriginal community mounted yesterday with the ar-rest of Mr. Foley on Thursday night.

He was arrested while drink-ing in the Grace Darling Hotel, in Smith Street, Collingwood, He said a constable told him he was under arrest then marched him into the street by the arm.

"I asked him again if I was under arrest and the constable said I wasn't," he said.

"So I said there was no point in talking and walked away."

Mr. Foley said four police cars suddenly appeared and a detec-tive accused him of committing a burglary on Monday night.

"The poor man freaked when I told him I was in Sydney attending a meeting of the Prime Minister's task force on Aboriginal health," he said.

Mr. Foley said several hotels in Fitzroy, Collingwood and Northcote had been told to re-strict the number of Aboriginal drinkers.

He said that on January 31 police made a "Gestapo-like raid" on the Builder's Arms Hotel in Gertrude Street, Fitzroy.

"Police blocked off all exits from the pub then arrested several people for drunkenness,"

he said.
"There were white people in the hotel who were just as inebriated but were not even looked at," he said.