

Army out as Migrants Threaten Riot

Sydney Morning Herald

19 July 1952

Melbourne, Friday. — Two hundred armed troops and five armoured cars moved into Bonegilla migrant camp to-day as 2,000 Italian migrants threatened to riot and set fire to the camp.

The Army moved in, and police reinforcements were called from Albury after the Minister for Immigration, Mr. H. E. Holt, had met a deputation from the camp.

Mr. Holt said he considered the situation so serious that he would discuss the migrants' demands on Monday with the Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies.

To-night the troops returned to Bandiana military camp after police said they could deal with any threatened disturbance.

The migrants are demanding work — or immediate repatriation.