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METROPOLITAN POLICE

(COPY)

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy)

SPECIAL BRANCH

Special Report }

16th day of October 1968

SUBJECT

V.S.C.

"Autumn
Offensive"

Reference to Papers

346/68/15B

This regular weekly report on the preparations for the demonstration of the 27th October 1968 is in three parts, (1) new intelligence, (2) a list of leaders and second-rank personalities likely to be prominent on the day, and (3) details of 9 "official" and 1 "unofficial" ad-hoc committees.

1. New intelligence

The attitude of the Young Liberals to the demonstration has now been made plain. In a press statement on 15-10-68 this organisation came out firmly on the side of law and order, and Young Liberals were urged by their leaders to adopt non-violent tactics. To ensure that the members obey the instructions of the stewards the Young Liberal contingent will assemble in Whitehall Place at about 1.30pm on the 27th October, and will then join the main body on the Embankment as a disciplined unit.

The anarchists will assemble at Cleopatra's Needle at 1.30pm on the 27th prior to joining the main party. As previously reported they will be about 1,000 strong, and will march under a banner reading "United Libertarian Groups".

The North-West London ad-hoc Committee of the V.S.C. intend to assemble at Henrietta Street in Covent Garden at 1.30pm on the 27th. They are expected to be about 150 strong.

Information about the extent of provincial participation is coming in by degrees: to date we know the rough figures for the following universit towns based on vehicle capacity:

From:	Cardiff	6 54-seater coaches
	Exeter	1 coach
	Durham	2 coaches
	Hull	6 coaches

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2.

From: Leeds 3 coaches
Bradford 1 coach
Sheffield 2 coaches
Oxford 7 double-decker coaches
(The train mentioned in
an earlier report seems
to have been cancelled)

At a conservative estimate this means that, to date, we have firm information that about 1,000 provincial students will be coming in organised parties. This figure may well have to be revised nearer the day. Two hired coaches bringing demonstrators from Harold Hill and Romford are due to leave Romford Market at 11.am on the 27th.

New "targets" mentioned in the last week are:

French Embassy
South African Embassy
Post Office Tower
Spanish Embassy (much favoured by the anarchists and members of the Syndicalist Workers Federation)
Greek Tourist Office, 195 Regent Street.
Spanish Tourist Office, 70 Jermyn Street.
United States Lines, 58 St. James's Street.
Centre Point (this unoccupied office block off Charing Cross Road is favoured as a "target" by the Revolutionary Socialist Students Federation)
School of African and Oriental Studies (an internal takeover by students during the evening of the 25th October in the same way as the takeover by London School of Economics students the same day)
Century House, Westminster Bridge Road (this building, the headquarters of M.I.6, has already been "attacked" with stickers by Lambeth V.S.C.)

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3.

Much of the information coming in about tactics is mere repetition of ideas already reported: one new notion has been put forward. Anticipating that Police will clear away building materials from the line of march a group has suggested that paper bags containing housebricks be deposited along the route during the previous night.

Recent press reports have highlighted the fact that this Branch has obtained a copy of the leaflet entitled "The potential of a militant demonstration". There has been a tendency to link this leaflet with the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, but it should be noted that the leaflet is "Black Power" in origin. We obtained our copy at a V.S.C. meeting, but there is no evidence that V.S.C. elements encouraged its distribution, or approved the contents.

(2) a. The following persons are prominent in V.S.C. affairs, and are listed as leaders of the movement. It must be appreciated that although some of them are repudiated by the official leadership they nevertheless possess the necessary influence and following to sway events.

Ernie TATE	Pat JORDAN	Mike EARL(E)	AL MANCHANDA
Martin MASCARO	Ed DAVOREN	Adolfo OLACHEA	Nick BATESON
John RITSON	Jess MCKENZIE	Melagro TURNER	Peter ROSS
Rip BULKELEY	AL RICHARDSON	Geoff RICHMAN	Marie RICHMAN
Henry WORTIS	Dave BARKYMORE	Tariq ALI	Mike SHRAPNELL
George COCHRANE	Gerry CSNER	Barney DAVIS	Mike MARTIN
Fergus NICHOLSON	Connie HARRIS	Martin STUART	Harpal BEAR
Dave FERNBACH	Ian CRAIB	Barbara WILSON	Dave SLANEY
Richard HOBIN	Renate PRINCE	Brian DOUIER	Jenny MALDEN
Henderson BROOKS	Tony SOUTHALL	John CULBERT	Alan HARRIS
Steve GOLDBOROUGH	Graham PACKHAM	Gerry LAWLESS	Jim RADFORD
Martin STUART			

b. This second list gives the names of persons

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(3) a. The following ad-hoc committees are officially recognised by V.S.C. national headquarters:

North London	Secretary: Jerry CSNER, 19 Talbot Road, N.6. (FIT-3365)
East London	Secretary: Brian DOUIEB, 8 Malvern Road, E.8. (254-9336)
Kentish Town	Secretary: Dave SLANEY, 31 Dartmouth Park Hill, N.W.5. (267-0291)
South Essex	Secretary: Jenny WALDEN, 7 Cawdor House, Cameron Close, Brentwood, Essex.

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- (3) b. The South-East London Vietnam ad-hoc committee is Mao-ist-controlled and not recognised by the V.S.C. The secretary is Martin STUART of 173 Reigate Road, Bromley, Kent: his telephone number is RCD-6503.

Conrad Dixon
Chief Inspector.

A. Cunningham
Chief Superintendent.

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