S.E No. 1 (Plain)

Special Report

SUBJECT Grunwicks

Reference to Papers [redacted]

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METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

28 day of June 19 77.

1. The industrial dispute at Grunwicks is now into its third week. The first day of this week was quiet and that tranquility has now continued into the second day when no arrests took place and only a total of 310 people, as estimated by the police, were present at the gates at which confrontation has occurred in the past.

2. The Trotskyists, who have imflamed the whole situation so far, were again present. Their estimated numbers were in the region of 50, and they were seen to stand in their own little cluster in Chapter Road, close to the front entrance.

3. The prominent presence of [redacted], who for years has been close to the leadership of the Communist Party of Great Britain gives a communist party complexion to the dispute and they, the CP, best of all, could claim to be in control of the Grunwick strike committee now. The Trotskyists seem to have run out of steam and content themselves with providing a mere presence, prepared, as always to leap into any breach that can be exploited.

4. The Chairman of the factory-gate meeting which is now part of the Grunwicks pickets' pattern, was [redacted] of the Brent Trades Council. His speech was confined to giving out announcements and re-counting the history of the dispute. He introduced SMITH who on a previous occasion had made a strong speech in criticism of the [redacted]. He was understood to say that, as a member of the Transport and General Workers Union, he would lead a deputation to see Jack JONES, General Secretary of his union, at their headquarters. He invited any TGWU members present to accompany him to speak to JONES at 12.30 pm, the time of the meeting.

5. The second speaker was Dave SEXTON of Wakefield Trades Council who claimed that he was a member of APEX, the union involved in the dispute with Grunwicks. He strongly decried GRANTHAM, the General Secretary of APEX for his having undertaken to limit the pickets at Grunwicks to 500. He said that he, like

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many others in his union, did not support the Executive in the direction that had been taken in the Willesden dispute. The need, he declared, was for a massive Trades Union turnout on Monday, 11.7.77, when coal-miners from Wales and from Yorkshire intended to appear in force to make their point to the country. He said that 36,000 people, strategically deployed, encompassing the whole of the area, would persuade the police to quietly pack up and leave.

6. His speech, which was strongly delivered, would appear to be in accord with utterances from other trades unionists who promise a massive show on 11.7.77.

7. In the meantime, it seems reasonable to expect no more than a holding operation by the militants bearing in mind that extra activity has been promised by the Unions for Wednesday and Friday of this week. Taking the first two days of this week as a standard, the next three days are unlikely to produce a turnout in excess of 700. The unknown quantity would be the presence of genuine trades unionsts at Grunwicks, but their appearance, although causing members to fluctuate, should not give rise to the contrived disturbances of last week.

[redacted]

Detective Inspector

[redacted]

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT