

MEMORANDUM

14th March, 1968.

From Deputy Commander,
Special Branch,
Ref: 346/68/1
(extension 2188)

To Commander 'A'

With further reference to the International Solidarity Demonstration organised by the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, which is due to take place on 17th March, 1968:-

Reports are now coming in from various sources, which substantiate previous information indicating that the demonstration will be on a very large scale.

Four coaches have been booked to convey students from Cambridge, where student organisations have expressed their hopes of raising a contingent of "over 400". (The demonstration occurs during the Easter vacation and many students are expected to make their own way here.) Another two coaches have been booked in Manchester by extreme left-wing organisations who hope to send about 90-100 supporters.

It seems likely that a large contingent of foreign demonstrators will be arriving during the next two days (17 Germans have already landed at Dover). The Vietnam Solidarity Campaign are reported to be expecting 1,000 supporters from abroad but this figure would seem to be somewhat exaggerated

In connection with these foreign contingents, it has been mentioned that they are intending to use violence, and have been advised to wear "helmets and motor-cycle goggles in case they are viciously attacked by the police".

Information about activists discussing entering Grosvenor Square and breaking through police cordons by charging through the centre of them

Final arrangements are being left to a briefing meeting which will be held in London on the evening before the demonstration. The reason for the lateness of the briefing is to run less risk of the police finding out their plans.

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Deputy

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