

OCTOBER 27

118

Ad Hoc Committee - Objective & Tactics.

CONFIDENTIAL

Read and brief trusted supporters only. Do not discuss or show this circular to anyone in whom you do not have complete confidence, and do not leave it lying around.

You will know of the discussion and argument that has taken place concerning the route and target of this demo, and you will have read separate and different announcements issued by the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, British Vietnam Solidarity Front and Anti Imperialism Solidarity Front.

The decision to announce a route that did not include Grosvenor Square was forced on the Ad Hoc Committee by the police, who made it clear that the demo would almost certainly be banned otherwise. Sustained propaganda over the last few months has obviously been designed to create a climate of opinion in which such a ban or brutal repression of the demo would be accepted by the public. The leaflet describing (inaccurately) molotov cocktails, is believed to be the work of agent provocateurs.

During the last few weeks two facts have plainly emerged.

- A. That a very substantial number of supporters, possibly a majority, feel very strongly that we should go to Grosvenor Square
- B. That a very large number, several thousand at least, will be going to the Square whatever the Ad Hoc Committee decides or announces.

As a result a secret meeting was held in London this week attended by representatives of all the militant groups and many active branches (we apologise if yours was omitted) it was agreed that the logical and necessary focal point for what promises to be Britain's largest demonstration was indeed the U.S. Embassy, and that in order to prevent brutality and victimisation to those who would go there anyway, it was important that the majority should go.

To announce such a change of plan at this stage would lead either to an outright ban or to massive police cordons which would keep us well away from the Square in places where we would be more exposed and vulnerable to police attack.

**THIS IS THE PLAN.** We meet at the embankment at 2 pm as announced. Those who have already announced their intention of marching to the Embassy will do so. The remainder will set off on the march that is supposed to go to Hyde Park. At different points along the route, groups will leave the march to make their own way to Grosvenor Square, by pavement, road, bus, tube. This fall out should be continuous and heavy and there will be no way in which the police can deal with it. We ask your Group to leave the march when we reach  
There will be some pacifists and others who remain with the March, but by the time it reaches Hyde Park the great majority of us should be in Grosvenor Square.

Our objective is not the embassy or the street - but the Gardens. Enter from all sides. It will hold 30,000 without difficulty and there is room to evade police attacks. We plan a mass meeting. Speakers will use the Roosevelt statue as a platform. If we are stopped by cordons we will surround and

besiege the Square, holding a meeting at every point of confrontation.

Without over stressing the possibility of massive police violence, it must be faced that the police have been thoroughly conditioned to use it and from our own reliable inside source, we know that there is a detailed contingency plan to "attack and rout" the demonstration if it "gets out of hand".

We urge all local groups to stick close together. Do not initiate violence and do not attempt to deliberately provoke the police. That just won't be necessary. When you are attacked fight back hard in self defence. Your aim should not be inflict injury but simply to prevent yourself and your comrades from being beaten or arrested. The police will make sorties to arrest individuals. If they succeed use the same method to rescue them.

By occupying the Gardens we shall avoid involving innocent bystanders or unnecessary damage to property. We will be directly in front of the Embassy clearly visible in our thousands to the press and TV cameras on the roofs, and it will be that much more difficult for the police to justify their violence on the grounds that we are endangering or obstructing the public.

Smaller demonstrations have been planned for shortly after 2.30 and these should draw away many of the police who will be standing by in various places. If we can retain the element of surprise it is probable that we will succeed in our objective.

GOOD LUCK and remember NO ARRESTS.

Central Ad-Hoc Committee. 120, Commercial Road, London, E.1.

C.I. **TN0039** <sup>1</sup>

This is a transcript of a leaflet  
that has come into the hands of [REDACTED] <sup>1A</sup>

[REDACTED] The original will be passed to you in due  
course, via [REDACTED] who is at Leconfield.

<sup>1B</sup>

**HN148** <sup>2</sup>

Det. Con.

Submitted for and on behalf of D.I. **HN332** <sup>3</sup>

*Is this info. still valid?* ?  
[REDACTED] <sup>4</sup>