

37A

S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH

1 day of September 1970

SUBJECT

ICRSC

1. The following information has been received from a reliable source:-

2. "On Thursday 27 August 1970, between 8.30 pm and 10 pm a meeting of the Steering Committee of the Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Campaign took place at the 'Earl Russell' public house, Pancras Road, NW1. The meeting which was attended by approximately 20 persons was chaired by [Privacy] [Privacy] was the minute secretary.

Reference to Papers
400/70/55

3. The following items were on the agenda:-

- (1) Protest Rally
- (2) Branch Reports
- (3) Other business

4. Leaflets (copy attached) publicising the rally which is to be held at the Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road, N7 at 7 pm on Thursday 3 September 1970 were distributed at the meeting, and LAWLESS appealed to everyone present to assist with the handing out of leaflets at Catholic churches and Irish public houses. [Privacy] [Privacy] confirmed that the hall had been booked for the meeting.

5. [Privacy] advised that the two MP's, O'HALLORAN and ATKINSON, had not replied to the invitations to take part in the rally, but that the other listed speakers had confirmed that they could attend, i.e. Bowes EGAN, Vincent McDOWELL, Eamonn McCANN, John PALMER and Tariq ALI. There had been no reaction from McCANN regarding the refusal to pay his airfare (decided at last week's meeting) and LAWLESS told the meeting that McCANN was at present in London and that he would be meeting him on the morning of Friday August 28 1970 to discuss the payment of his fare.

6. [Privacy] told the meeting that the International Socialists at Tees-side had organised a public meeting (venue not known) on Friday 4 September 1970 at which 'Ireland' would be discussed; he would be one of the speakers at the meeting. Tees-side I.S. were to try to organise a branch of ICRSC and hoped to recruit members for the new branch from persons attending the public meeting.



7. The only London branch of ICRSC which had held a meeting during the past week was the Islington branch. LAWLESS told the meeting that the Islington branch was mainly concerned at present with organising the protest rally and that the North London Branch of Red Circle had affiliated to it.

8. The following persons are known to have attended the meeting:-

Privacy

Gery LAWLESS

Privacy

Privacy

Bob FURDIE

Privacy

9. Special Branch references to persons and organisations mentioned in this report are given in the attached appendix.

HN68
Constable

Submitted:

J. J. J.
Chief Inspector

TN0035

for CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT



APPENDIX

Privacy

Tariq ALI 402/65/440

Norman ATKINSON, MP.

Privacy

Bowen EGAN Privacy

Privacy

Gery LANLESS 335/57/430A

Privacy

Eamonn McCANN Privacy

Vincent McDOWELL

Privacy

M O'HALLORAN, MP

John PALMER Privacy

Bob PURDIE 405/87/52

I.S. 400/69/291

Red Circle 400/70/50

Privacy

Hands Off the People of Northern Ireland!

End the Repression in London!

You have all seen the pictures from Northern Ireland in the past months. They have given some idea of the reign of terror under which the people are living. The brutality of the RUC and the Orange B-Specials is nothing new. But now the British Army, true to its traditions in Aden, Cyprus, and a host of other countries, has shown its vicious face. Homes have been raided and looted, civil rights activists, particularly socialists and republicans, have been beaten, tortured and slung in prison. At any time Stormont will enforce the Special Powers Act which allows their thugs to raid, arrest and imprison WITHOUT CHARGE OR TRIAL.

This repression has found its echo in London, where a consistent campaign of harassment, directed at those in Britain who have supported the struggle in Ireland, has developed. Militants have been picked up on demonstrations and handed out severe charges; a large number of people associated with the Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Campaign have had their homes raided by the police, often without satisfactory authorisation; property arbitrarily taken away has included private correspondence from Bernadette Devlin; one of our members was awakened at 6 a.m. one morning with a police dog at the end of his bed. These incidents appear to be part of an attempt to silence those who are trying to bring out the facts about Northern Ireland. Together with the recent vicious sentences against Cambridge students, and the protests by Black people about their treatment by the police, they mark a turn towards the repression of all those who do not accept the political status quo.

The Irish, British, and all immigrant workers in Britain must act to stop the brutality and repression in Northern Ireland, and the similar police activities here. We must show the authorities that they will meet with massive opposition to any new attempts to enforce the Special Powers Act or to apply the same methods in Britain.

The Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Campaign is calling a

PROTEST RALLY

at 7.00 p.m. on THURSDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER, at the CO-OP HALL,
SEVEN SISTERS ROAD, LONDON N.7.

Speakers invited include:

BOWES EGAN

(Author of *Burntollet*, currently charged with conspiracy over the House of Commons C.S. Gas incident)

MICHAEL O'HALLORAN M.P.

NORMAN ATKINSON M.P.

VINCENT McDOWELL
(Vice-Chairman C.R.A.)

EAMONN McCANN (Derry L.P.)

JOHN PALMER (I.S.)

TARIQ ALI (I.M.G.)

as well as other Irish and British socialists.

I.C.R.S.C., 22 Duncan Terrace, London N.1.

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