

METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH,

26th day of February 1969

Indexed
1 [redacted]
1973/69

Special Report }

SUBJECT Privacy

[redacted] Privacy

Privacy

Privacy appeared at the Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, before Mr. Justice HINES, Q.C., on Privacy February, 1969, charged with the following offences:-

Reference to Papers

Privacy

1. Inciting to riot in that on the 9th day of October, 1968, unlawfully incited certain persons whose names are unknown, exceeding two in number, riotously to assemble together on the 27th day of October, 1968. (Against the Peace.)
2. Distributing threatening writing at a public meeting in that on the 9th day of October, 1968 unlawfully incited certain persons whose names are unknown without lawful authority or reasonable excuse to have with them in divers public places on the 27th day of October, 1968 certain offensive weapons, namely catapults, metal ballbearings, poles, bricks, Molotov cocktails and home-made grenades. (Against the Peace).
3. Distributing threatening writing at a public meeting in that on the 9th day of October, 1968 at a public meeting he distributed certain threatening writings with intent to provoke a breach of the peace. (Contrary to Section 5(b) Public Order Act, 1936 as substituted by Section 7, Race Relations Act., 1965.)

... ..

Privacy was represented by A. IRVINE and the prosecution by M. CORKERY, Treasury Counsel. Subject pleaded "Not Guilty" to all charges, but after hearing the evidence was found "Guilty" on counts 1. and 2. and was sentenced to 1. - 2 years imprisonment and 2. - 1 year imprisonment, to run concurrent. By direction of the Judge, the jury returned a verdict of "Not Guilty" on count 3. This direction was given...

given after counsel had made their submissions on the question of the meaning of the word "threatening". Mr. Justice HINES ruled that in his opinion there was insufficient evidence to establish the two ingredients required - i.e. that some person was threatened and that there was a breach of the peace or the likelihood of a breach.

Briefly the circumstances of the case are that **Privacy** distributed a leaflet entitled "The Potential of a Militant Demonstration" at a public meeting held at Essex Church Hall, Palace Gardens Terrace, W.8. on 9th October, 1968, under the auspices of the Notting Hill Vietnam Solidarity Campaign. This leaflet suggested the tactics and strategy to be adopted at the V.S.C. demonstration that was to be held on 27th October, 1968. The charges arose from these suggestions.

Evidence for the prosecution was given by A/WDS CRAMPTON, D.S. **2** and **3** and myself, and expert handwriting evidence was given by David ELLEN, M.F Forensic Science Laboratory.

Privacy gave evidence on his own behalf and also called four witnesses, all of whom were members of the Notting Hill V.S.C. They were **Privacy** and **Privacy** and **Privacy** and **Privacy**. Generally speaking their evidence conflicted with each other and that given by the defendant.

Also present at the Court, but taking no part in the proceedings were the following, all of whom are known to Special Branch as political extremists:-

Privacy

There was no disorder or demonstrations in the Court during the two-day trial.

Special Branch references for the persons mentioned in this report as attending Court to support **Privacy** are shown on the attached appendix. **6**

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Privacy

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Inspector.

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT.