

S.E. No. 1 (Filmy)

METROPOLITAN POLICE

(COPY)

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

SUBJECT

ICRSC

13 day of February 1970
REF. OF 2134

Reference to Papers

400/69/272

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

2. "A meeting of the combined Islington & Camden branches of the Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Campaign was held at the Earl Russell Public House, Pancras Road, NW1, on Monday 9 February 1970, between 8 pm and 10 pm; it was attended by some 15 persons.

3. The main item on the agenda was a talk by [Privacy] on the current situation in Northern Ireland, and ICRSC's continuing role in relation to Northern Ireland.

4. He expressed the view, which has been made by other members of the Campaign in recent weeks, that the situation in Northern Ireland was deteriorating and that increased unrest could be expected during the coming months. An added danger was the economic crisis which would shortly engulf the Six Counties. This crisis was being aggravated by the withdrawal of funds by foreign capitalists, who felt that their investments were insecure, and this in turn meant that there was increasing unemployment in Northern Ireland. Major Chichester-Clark's recent visit to London had been for the express purpose of seeking financial aid on a massive scale - much larger in fact than had been admitted.

5. Gery LAWLESS endorsed [Privacy] statements, and added that he still considered that the 'blow-up' in Northern Ireland would come in weeks rather than months. He felt that despite the relative peace with which the past weekend's demonstrations in Northern Ireland had passed off, that the one to be held in Armagh on 21 February 1970, would undoubtedly be the big test. He said, that despite pleas from PAISLEY, he did not think that the Paisleyites would be able to resist attacking Civil Rights demonstrators on that day and that the results would be very serious indeed. In the circumstances he felt that the Campaign as a whole should be ready for a demonstration on Sunday 22 February 1970 despite the

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fact that a few days previously he had thought that this would not be necessary. (SB reports of 3 and 10 February refer - the later one stated that the demonstration was unlikely to take place, which is contradicted by this current information.)

[REDACTED]

6. Those known to be present at this meeting were:-

Gary LAWLESS

Privacy

Privacy

7. Special Branch references to the persons mentioned are contained in an appendix to this report.

M Ferguson
Sergeant

Submitted:

[Signature]
Chief Inspector.

[Signature]
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

BOX 1

[REDACTED]

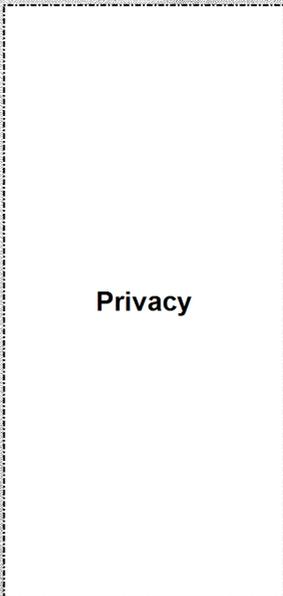
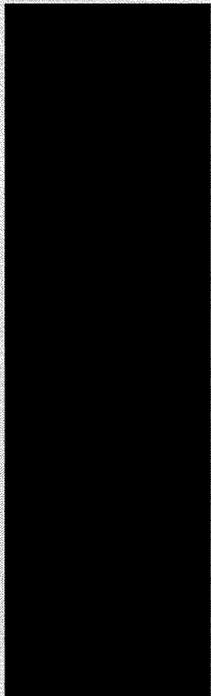
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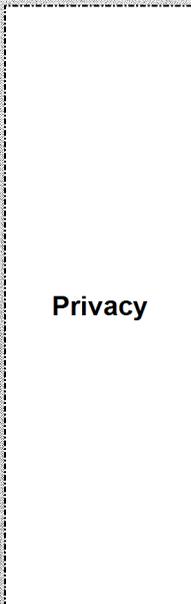
A P P E N D I X to Special Branch report dated 11.2.70

Gery LAWLESS

335/57/430A



Privacy



Privacy

