

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

12 day of May 1972

SUBJECT.....
 Schools Action
 Union

Reference to Papers
 100/70/163

The following information has been received from a reliable source:

1. "On Monday 8 May 1972, the Schools Action Union organised a school strike which affected several North London Schools. They were demanding:

- 1) Teacher pupil committees to run the schools
- 2) No school uniforms
- 3) No corporal punishment
- 4) Free school meals and milk
- 5) Freedom to leave school during the lunch time break

2. Approximately 800 children left their various schools during the mid-morning break and participated in a protest march which was lead by **Privacy** a member of the Schools Action Union and the London Alliance. The march had no set objective and the route was somewhat impromptu with children marching from school to school, picking up supporters on the way. At one stage there were several small protest marches in progress but eventually these groups were united.

3. The headquarters and information centre was set up at **Privacy** the home of **Privacy** a former active member of the SAU who remains a strong supporter. **Privacy** mother is a school teacher and an open supporter and sympathiser of the SAU. During the day **Privacy** stayed at **Privacy** house answering a constant stream of telephone enquiries from the public, press, BBC, ITV, Police, other extremist groups, irate parents and school teachers.

4. **Privacy**, an active Maoist, was naturally obstructive towards the Police, parents and teachers.

5. During the march and throughout the day **Privacy** **Privacy** (an Indian aged about 28 years) were busy trying to organise the smaller groups into a large protest march and generally trying to whip up support from the children. They also maintained close telephone contact with **Privacy** and kept her abreast of activities so that she could relay them to the press.

6. **Privacy** and **Privacy** were careful not to be seen publicly organising the march or to participate in it, thereby giving the impression that the whole affair had been organised by the children.

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7. Later in the afternoon **Privacy** (18 years) and **Privacy** (16 years) both SAU members were arrested during the march. On being granted bail they were taken home. **Privacy** then left his home and spent the night at **Privacy** house.

8. During Monday evening **Privacy** and four other young boys and girls who had participated in the march pasted up a number of posters advertising a further strike for the next day, Tuesday 9.5.72.

9. On Monday night a number of SAU and children who had participated in the march spent the night at **Privacy** to be ready for an early start the next day.

10. It was proposed that early on Tuesday morning members would picket the main gates of the schools previously involved in giving out leaflets and persuading the children not to attend school at all that day, but to participate in the strike. The leaflets were composed by **Privacy** with the assistance of **Privacy**

11. **Privacy** a member of the Revolutionary Women's Union and a school teacher, said she would acquaint her pupils of the strike on 9.5.72. **Privacy**

12. It was generally accepted that adults would not participate in the march but that as many as possible would go to the march and stand around in general support to watch for any "Police brutality."

13. The Schools Action Union is a member organisation of the London Alliance and recently SAU members have constituted at least 50% of those attending Alliance meetings. The chairman of the London Alliance is **Privacy** an active supporter of the SAU, who exerts a considerable influence on the younger members of the Alliance and SAU. **Privacy**

Special Branch references are given in the attached Appendix.

Privacy

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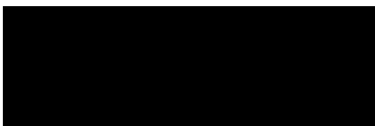
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Chief Inspector

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CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT



APPENDIX to Special Branch report of 12.5.72 concerning
Schools Action Union

Privacy

London Alliance

No trace



Privacy

Present at a protest march and demonstration to commemorate Stephen McCARTHY on 29.1.72

Privacy



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Privacy
address in address contacts)

name and
book of IS



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