

S.B. No. 1 (Filmsy)

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METROPOLITAN POLICE

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

11 day of August, 19 77

SUBJECT

INTERNATIONAL

MARKIST GROUP

Reference to Papers

400/76/178

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

2. "On Wednesday, 2 August, 1977, between 7.30 p.m. and 10 p.m., at the Small Hall, Red Lion Square, W.C.2, the International Marxist Group held a public meeting to which George ANTHONY, a member of the Communist Party of Great Britain, had been invited to speak on the CP paper 'The British Road to Socialism'. The chairman was Mick GOSLING, and forty-five people were present.

3. After introductions, ANTHONY delivered his speech, which began with a short history of the Communist Party and described its evolution into a democratic organisation that in future would accept the verdict of the electorate. In his conclusion, he stated that the CP, more than any other group, had had the biggest influence on socialist thinking over the last fifty years. One of the most important lessons to be learned from this period, he argued, was that, as times changed, so must political parties - although sight should never be lost of original objectives.

4. Tariq ALI then thanked ANTHONY for coming along to explain the ideas of the CP, but added that he disagreed with the basic concept that Parliament must survive, since it had shown only too clearly that it merely represented the interests of big business. What was needed, he continued, were workers' councils set up during the period of change which followed the revolution (opposition ideas would be allowed, but control would remain with the great mass of workers through their councils).

5. Finally, Tariq ALI pointed out that the significance of the IMG lay in its system of democratic centralism, which permitted factions and tendencies to exist within its umbrellas, thereby providing a natural rallying point for the revolutionary left.

6. After a period of discussion, during which nothing of special interest was said, the meeting ended."

Persons identified as being present:-

Tariq ALI

RF 402/65/440

George ANTHONY

Privacy

BOX 503

TO

- 5 SEP 1977

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Page No. 2.

Piers G. REYN
Mick GOSLING

RF 102/69/699

Privacy

G.T.M. Craft

Inspector.

[REDACTED]

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT. c

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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