

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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**No Downward Dissemination of this Intelligence without Reference to Commander Operations Special Branch**

**TITLE: PUBLIC ORDER IMPLICATIONS FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE LAWRENCE INQUIRY REPORT AND OTHER EVENTS.**

This report will provide a synopsis of the current standing of groups and individuals in relation to the Steven Lawrence Inquiry and detail likely events in the aftermath of the release of the Inquiry's findings.

To date, Neville LAWRENCE has been the leading catalyst concerning events relating to his son, Steven. By adopting a reasonable stance and allowing all sides to publicly air their views, both through the Inquiry and via many other public meetings, LAWRENCE has attracted many of the main stream monitoring groups, e.g. Newham, Southall etc plus many other notable campaigns, such as Joy GARDNER, Ricky REEL, Wayne & Brian DOUGLAS (no relation) and Oscar OKOYE to his banner. All of these groups or individuals are currently engaged in campaigning against what they perceive as victims of police racism or injustice. Significantly, all of the above mentioned groups have distanced themselves from extremist organisations whose presence and influence might lead to public order problems. It is therefore probable that should Imran KHAN (solicitor to the LAWRENCEs) contact the family of Roger SYLVESTER, then he would alert the family to the dangers of enlisting the support of Movement For Justice (MFJ). Suresh GROVER from the Monitoring Group (formerly SMG) and the main mouthpiece and communicator for Neville LAWRENCE throughout this affair, has maintained contacts with all of the groups involved in this campaign, including MFJ, and, although privately he would favour a more vociferous, confrontational approach with groups such as MFJ, he is dictated to by Neville and sees a safer long term future under the LAWRENCE umbrella.

The most openly vociferous group involved in the LAWRENCE Inquiry has been the Movement For Justice. Apart from a cameo appearance by the Nation of Islam (NOI) at the moment the five suspects appeared in front of Sir William McPHERSON, the Inquiry Chairman, MFJ have consistently protested against police racism and lack of justice for the families of victims. What, undoubtedly has spiked their ambition to underpin not only the Lawrence campaign but also, many of the others, is money. It is worth reflecting that Newham & Southall MG provide legal and financial assistance to many of the campaigns and have warned the lead figures in these groups that they risk losing those benefits should they employ the services of the MFJ to press their case. In addition, Neville LAWRENCE has attracted a number of big businesses to his cause with a view to him setting up a Civil



Rights movement

Privacy

Privacy

It has also been reported

that he will allow his name to go forward in order to contest candidature for the appointment of Mayor of London.

Neville LAWRENCE has been consistent in that he does not approve of riots or any form of public disorder and that is unlikely to change regardless of the Inquiry's results. As can be deduced he has too much going for him, so is unlikely to be side tracked by one small group with no known prominent backers. MFJ are aware of this and remain eager not to totally alienate themselves from both this and other campaigns. Consequently they are keen to ensure that their Civil Rights March on 6.2.99 remains trouble free. In respect of this march the recent death of Roger SYLVESTER may provide a timely opportunity to build on this event. Additionally recent media reports relating to no action being taken against the police officers who investigated the original case has refocused attention and rekindled enthusiasm for potential participants on this Civil Rights March. While those on the march will be angry and in a volatile mood, there are no known plans to deliberately provoke disorder. However, any perceived form of police provocation may inadvertently trigger a reaction from the demonstrators. What is difficult to assess is the possibility of black youths with no political affiliation attending the march who will pursue their own agenda. There is no intelligence to suggest at this time that this may happen.

On the publication of the Inquiry's report, at this stage, there is no intelligence to indicate any planned demonstration. Much of the Report's expected findings have already been aired through media outlets and are unlikely to cause any surprises. However, amongst black communities, particularly the disaffected youth, this report will serve to legitimise their views that police racism is institutionalised. Consequently this will increase the potential for outbreaks of spontaneous disorder where police and some sections of the black community come into conflict.

The Monitoring Group which is organising the Blair PEACH demonstration (20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death) on 24.4.99 will be viewed as being synonymous with the LAWRENCE death and will therefore unite all of the disparate groups under one banner. Suresh GROVER, who is the organiser of this event, will positively contribute to ensuring that the day passes off without disorder. However, given the large number of groups and individuals who are likely to attend this march, the potential for disorder is high.

Throughout this entire period other extremist groups have been largely anonymous in their dealings with the LAWRENCEs. The Socialist Workers Party (SWP) has held public meetings in support of Steven LAWRENCE but these have never manifested themselves in large demonstrations. However there have been instances of local SWP branches taking to the streets in respect of incidents occurring in their areas eg following the death of Roger SYLVESTER. There is no indication that the Central Committee is calling for a London wide campaign. This is likely to remain the case for the foreseeable future in respect of the SWP who view recruitment and paper selling as their priorities. Their sister organisation, the Anti- Nazi League (ANL) will support direct action against the Police and take part in future demonstrations under the auspices of a Civil Rights March. However, their capacity to cause disorder is limited and their role will be in a supporting capacity. The NOI may feature at the time of the release of the findings of the Lawrence Report as it will coincide with a large gathering of the press. Regardless, their activities will be small and confined to maximising publicity for themselves. They do not pose a significant threat to public order.



Current intelligence indicates that neither the Animal Rights activists nor the environmental lobbyists consider the Steven Lawrence Inquiry to be an issue and consequently it will not feature on their agendas.



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**HANDLERS COMMENT**

Any further intelligence that becomes available with respect to the LAWRENCE Inquiry will be reported immediately.