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S.B. No. (main)

Noted  
3/13/81

**METROPOLITAN POLICE**

**SPECIAL BRANCH**

Special Report }

8th day of January 1981

**SUBJECT**

1. This report deals with a proposed meeting and rally, being organised by the East London Workers Against Racism (ELWAR), a front organisation of the Revolutionary Communist Tendency. Due to be held on Sunday 11th January 1981 between 9.30am and 12 noon, at Brick Lane E2 j/w Bethnal Green Road, the theme of the meeting will be 'Clear the fascists out of Brick Lane'.

Meeting and  
Rally by East  
London Workers  
Against Racism

(ELWAR)

2. ELWAR, moving into the East end of London in the fading wake of the Anti Nazi League (ANL), active in 1978 and early 1979, will be out to impress the 'broad left', having accused leading ANL members of allowing their organisation to become moribund. Considering themselves the vanguard of the 'left' on anti-fascist matters ELWAR supporters will make serious efforts to summon sympathisers of all persuasions to attend this inaugural event, particularly in the Asian community. Their efforts to mobilise activists of Bangla-Deshi origins however, have proved totally unsuccessful and, although a disappointment, will not dampen the enthusiasm of those attending this rally.

**Reference to Papers**

3. Although ELWAR will be meeting in opposition to the National Front (NF), much of their motivation for organising in Brick Lane will be to discredit the ANL with a view to gaining more support throughout the 'broad left'. Part of their advertisement in 'Time Out' magazine of 8.1.81 states "Every Sunday morning scores of fascists congregate in Brick Lane;...", obviously exaggerating the National Front presence with a view to maximising support.

400/80/42

4. Those attending will be addressed and led in slogan chanting by the ELWAR leadership using a megaphone and are likely to be noisy and hostile. At this stage there are no intentions by the organisers to physically confront Police. Leading members of this group however are known as being volatile characters and can be sparked into physical conflict with little difficulty. Reliable sources indicate that the number of persons who will take part in this event is unlikely to exceed between 70 and 100.

5. No information has been forthcoming respecting any organised opposition to this rally by the NF and only the regular paper sellers from this organisation, amounting to no more than a handful, are likely to be present.

6. Special Branch references to the organisations mentioned in this report are shown on the attached appendix.

Submitted

Detective Chief Inspector

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Sergeant

[REDACTED]

Appendix to Special Branch report dated 8th January 1981 respecting a meeting and rally to be held by the East London War Against Racism on Sunday 11th January 1981:

✓ East London Workers Against Racism

400/80/42 (RCT file)

National Front

400/80/153

Revolutionary Communist Tendency

400/80/42