

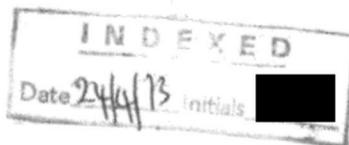
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S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

## METROPOLITAN POLICE

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH



25 day of May 19 72

SUBJECT Meeting  
of persons arrested  
on 12.5.72 in  
England Rugby XV  
demonstrations

Reference to Papers

400/72/28

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

1. "On Sunday 21.5.1972 from 4pm until 6.30pm at [redacted] Privacy the home of Jonathan ROSENHEAD, a meeting of persons concerned in the demonstration to prevent the English Rugby touring team departing punctually from their Richmond hotel on 12.5.1972, was held. Thirteen persons attended.

2. ROSENHEAD had managed to procure copies of some press photographs and the conversation revolved mainly around their value for evidential purposes. It transpired that few of the photographs were of use in this respect and one of them clearly showed RODKER being arrested in the road. RODKER was obviously surprised by this and expressed mild doubts about whether he could honestly plead not guilty, although this was finally resolved by [redacted] Privacy advancing the maxim of divide and rule, which persuaded him to maintain his innocence.

3. RODKER said that if some of the photographs were used to support their case the Police had a right to know from where had been obtained and would obtain copies of all the photographs themselves including those unhelpful to their own case. ROSENHEAD disagreed with this argument and suggested that they need only to know what they were told. They had no way of finding out from where the photographs had come. Finally it was agreed that copies and enlargements of some photographs would be obtained and that those also taken by the Press Association would be viewed.

4. A brief discussion then ensued on how the demonstration could have been made more effective. It was discovered that as had been originally planned a cyclist and a car had driven in front of the coach after it had left the carpark with the intention of blocking the road. However, the car had not fulfilled its role and had lost the coach at the first set of traffic lights, allowing it to continue its journey unimpeded. Some of those present were annoyed at such a lost opportunity and it was suggested the car occupants should be contacted and informed of the general feeling of annoyance. However, no-one knew who had been driving the Mini-Marcus concerned and so the idea was abandoned.

5. [redacted] 'PT' said that it would have been relatively easy for him to have handcuffed himself to the steering wheel of the vehicle. "Or for that matter", added [redacted] Privacy "to have injected a resin into the ignition". RODKER said that "on previous occasions when handcuffs and chains have been used, the Police seemed to have produced wire cutters from thin air. Perhaps they're standard equipment now", he exclaimed.

6. ROSENHEAD next began to compile a list of those who had witnessed the arrest of any of the others, but most could not recollect the more important details that had occurred.

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Finally it was agreed that a small group including ROSENHEAD, RODKER, Privacy and Privacy would arrange an interview with Ben BIRNBERG (Solicitor) in about 10 days time. RODKER suggested that all concerned should prepare a statement of what had happened and send it to BIRNBERG's home address to enable him to get a clear picture of what happened. He stressed the importance of the attendance at the next meeting (to be arranged) of other demonstrators who had not been arrested.

- 7. The meeting was concluded.
- 8. The following persons were present at the meeting:-

Ernie RODKER; Jonathan ROSENHEAD;  
 Christabel GURNEY; Privacy Privacy  
 Privacy 'PT' Mike SCOTT;

The persons mentioned in the text of this report are listed on the attached appendix.

Submitted: HN294 HN298  
 Constable  
 Chief Inspector

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

