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METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

12 day of January 19

S.R. No. 1 (Pitney)

Special Report

SUBJECT
Putney Branch of
Young Liberals

Reference to Papers
400/70/51

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

"On 6.1.72, between 8 pm and 10.20 pm at 90 Park Park Road, Putney, SW15, the parental home of Peter (P) HALL, a meeting of the Putney branch of Young Liberals was held. A guest speaker from 'Belong' had been booked for the evening but failed to arrive and it was decided that the meeting would nevertheless take place but concern itself with the "problem of drugs".

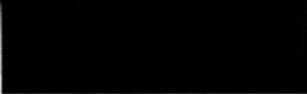
Privacy (surname not known), a former member of the Putney YL who had moved from the district and was now a member of the Norwood Branch, acted, in the absence of Privacy, informally as chairman. Most of the discussion was either initiated or sustained by him and he was obviously well regarded by those present.

The consensus of opinion was that the law prohibiting the use of cannabis resin should be repealed. However two of the members, Privacy (surname not known), and Privacy (surname not known) did not concur and gave the experiences of friends. Privacy also quoted examples of the natural progression from soft to hard drugs that he had himself witnessed in the course of his duties as a welfare worker for the local council. There was unanimous agreement, however, in the criticism of "the amount of time wasted by Police in busting hippies".

As the meeting progressed, the discussion changed to projects mooted at previous meetings and included a sit-in at the local council chambers in protest at the exclusion of the public; a free mini-bus service in an area inadequately served by the LFB (this is in line with the current YL policy of the advocacy of a free transport service) and some form of protest at the obnoxious smells emanating from the glucose factory at Battersea. No firm decision regarding these activities was arrived at but it was decided that each project should be tackled by the group as a

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whole rather than as individuals, taking responsibility for a single project.

Privacy The branch secretary Privacy played an active part in the discussion and condemned the recent demonstration in Oxford Street by the St Alban's branch, as being particularly pointless, unsuccessful in the extreme and executed purely for the sake of publicity. The meeting was adjourned to a nearby public house and was concluded soon after. The following persons were present: Privacy

2. The persons and organizations mentioned in the text of this information together with their references in Special Branch are contained in an attached Appendix.

HN298
Constable

Submitted: HN332

Privacy Chief Inspector

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[REDACTED]

APPENDIX to Special Branch concerning a meeting of
the Putney Branch of Young Liberals held on 6.1.72:

Release	-	400/67/150
HALL, Peter (1)	-	405/69/702
HALL, Jo-ann	-	No trace

[REDACTED]

Privacy