



S.D.S

(COPY)

S.B. No. 1 (Films)

METROPOLITAN POLICE



SPECIAL BRANCH

Special Report

1st day of April 1976

SUBJECT

Big Flame

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

Privacy

2. On Wednesday 17 March 1976, from 7.30 pm until 10.15 pm, at Stockwell Hall, Stockwell Park Walk, SW4, Big Flame held one of a series of meetings in a national recruitment drive. The film on Portugal made by the Newsworld Collective 'On the Side of the People' was shown during the evening. The chairman was Rick GIBSON and about sixty persons were present.

Privacy

3. It had been intended to start the meeting with the film but, because the wrong projector had been ordered, the chairman was forced to rearrange the agenda. Following a brief introduction GIBSON introduced Martin YARBURY, a member of Liverpool Big Flame, who had given valuable assistance in the final production of the film.

4. YARBURY spoke about the various aspects taken up by the film and the current situation in Portugal. He said that the film had been shot mainly in September and October 1975 at the time of the 5th provisional government and when the peasants in the north were actively campaigning against left-wing forces. In spite of the massive defeat of the working class on November 25th and the ousting of the left-wing from the armed forces movement, the prospects for the future were encouraging. He closed by stating that recent events in Spain might be of great assistance to the revolutionary working class people of Portugal.

5. The film, which lasted for 50 minutes, was then shown and the politics of Big Flame were briefly explained to those present.

6. Kate THIBOUTT, of West London Big Flame, gave an incoherent speech about the effects of popular power on mass struggles such as the 1972 docks strike and the Pilkington strike of 1971. She also attempted to explain some of the present areas of Big Flame work, particularly in the hospitals and the National Abortion Campaign.

7. The final twenty minutes of the meeting were given over to questions from members of the audience, none of which was of particular interest.

Reference to Papers

400/75/215

TO

P.A. 11

References of persons identified as having been present:

Privacy

Alec GIBSON

Privacy

405/75/202

Privacy

Martin YARBUTT

Privacy

405

Privacy

Kate TRUSCOTT

Privacy

Mentions re Big Flame

Privacy

Privacy

Mentions re TOM

No Trace

Privacy

Mentions re Ed Freedman

Mentions re IS

1

G.T.M. Craft

2

Chief Inspector

3

CHIEF SUPERVISOR