

METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

S.R. No. 1 (Filmsy)

Special Report

6th day of April 1976

SUBJECT

T.O.E.

[Redacted] Privacy

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

[Redacted] Privacy

2. On Friday 26 March 1976, from 8.30 pm to 10 pm, the London Co-ordinating Committee of the Groups Out Movement held a regular meeting in room 3A, University of London Union, Malet Street, London, WC1. The chairman was [Redacted] Privacy

Reference to Papers

400/75/221

[Redacted] Privacy and twenty persons were present.

[Redacted] Privacy

3. [Redacted] Privacy, who dominated the meeting, presented a report concerning the proposed TCM labour movement delegation to Ireland (copy attached) and said that he recommended that the visit to Ireland be postponed until mid September 1976. He then outlined the principle reasons behind his proposal. Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed unanimously to accept [Redacted] Privacy's suggestion.

4. It was also agreed that:

i) The next National Delegate Conference would be held in May and not July, [Redacted]

ii) a copy of [Redacted] Privacy's report should be sent to all TCM branches and

iii) a press statement should be issued to explain the Committee's decision to postpone the delegation to Ireland."

5. References of persons known to have been present:

[Redacted] Privacy

Rick GILSON

405/75/202

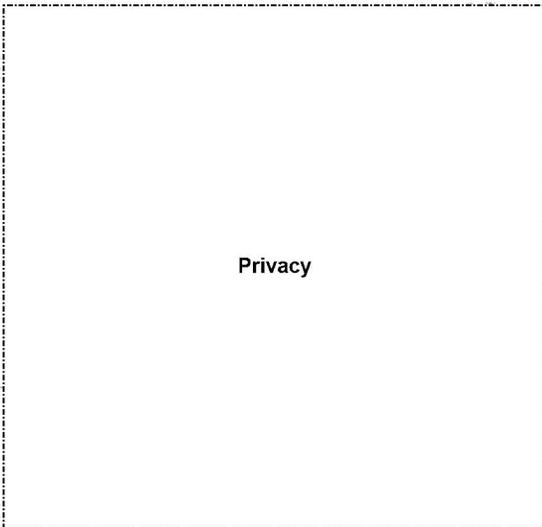
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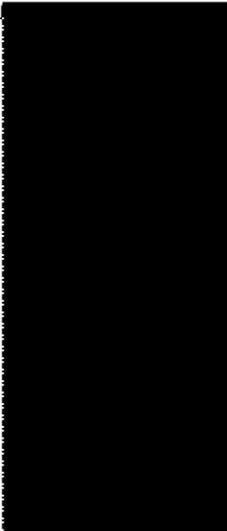
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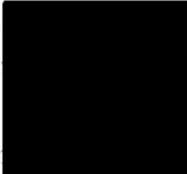


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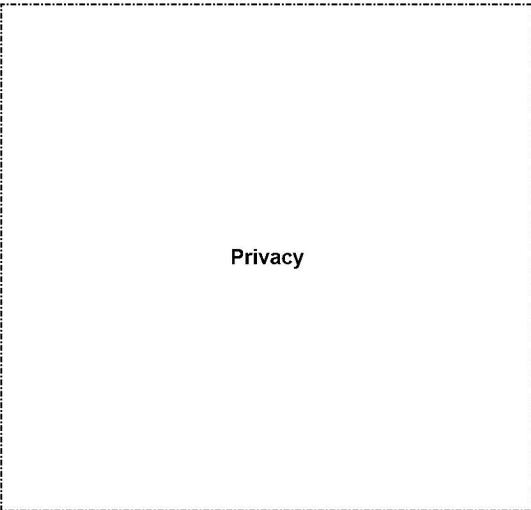


G.T.M. Craft

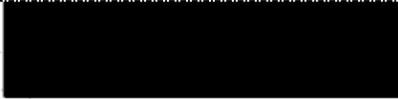
Chief Inspector



CHIEF SUPERVISOR



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NATIONAL LABOUR MOVEMENT DELEGATION TO IRELAND - CONVENOR'S REPORT

At the last meeting of the Delegation Sub-Committee on 22.3.76 it was agreed to recommend to the LCC that the Delegation to Ireland, originally scheduled for 29 May, be postponed until either the weekend of 18 September or 25 September.

The Dublin Committee have also asked that the date be changed. Three major Trade Union conferences are being held in Ireland on the weekend of 29 May and while this was known, it was assumed that these would all take place in Dublin. Information has now been received that all three conferences are to be held outside Dublin: one in Waterford, one in Wexford and the other in Dunlaoire. There is also the possibility that another important conference will take place on the same weekend. This not only means that the possibility of arranging meetings with Trade Union representatives is more than halved, but the central core of the reception committee (being all involved in the Unions concerned in these conferences) will not be free over that weekend.

The Delegation Sub-committee discussed both moving the date forward and also postponement by a week or two, and concluded that all dates near to the original one will mean either loss of potential delegates, loss in organising time and finances, or difficulties in travel arrangements and accommodation. We also feel that a decisive postponement until September will present T.O.M. with a number of advantages, which, if grasped, will considerably enhance the prospects of the delegation being a success.

T.O.M. has taken the decision to raise money for this delegation in order that no prospective delegate will be deterred from participation due to lack of finance. Already, we have found from replies to our invitation to send delegates that the cost to each delegate is presenting a real barrier, even where the organisation itself is committed in principle to the delegation. Not only has the cost affected the delegates' response, but it has seriously limited our options in getting travel arrangements finalised. We need the money when we actually book transport i.e. early on in the organising of the delegation, and not at the time the delegation leaves Britain. If the date is postponed until September, we have the possibility of raising a larger subsidy that will ensure maximum participation.

From September 6 to 16 the TUC meets in conference in Brighton. On 1 October the Labour Party begins its annual conference. We can use the TUC conference to publicise the delegation and use the return of the delegation to aid our intervention at the Labour Party conference. It is also around this time that the British Government can be expected to start moves towards any new 'turn' in its strategy towards Ireland, while the fact that the delegation would be returning at the beginning of the 'political season' rather than almost at its end, would mean that all-important follow-up activities can be planned and carried out in a much more consistent and uninterrupted manner.

The Delegation Sub-committee was aware of the fact that if the delegation were postponed, some sort of interim political focus for the T.O.M. would be necessary during the summer, but saw that this could be used to mobilise more delegates to go to Ireland and could be a possible meeting-point for those delegates already committed to go.

The Sub-committee discussed various forms this event could take, but no firm recommendation was agreed. I list below some of the suggestions, together with additional suggestions of my own. UCPI0000012220

emerged from discussions with individuals sponsoring the delegation:-

- a) An open conference, possibly around the time when the delegation was originally scheduled. This would be a prestige event, possibly on "Imperialism and Ireland" with well-known international speakers (Sartre, Mao Minh, etc.) possibly arranged in conjunction with the RPC (although the main purpose from our point of view would be to publicise the delegation to Ireland).
- b) The meeting of delegates agreed at the NCC (on condition it did not mean disruption of the other arrangements) would be made more feasible if the delegation were postponed. One suggestion was to invite all the delegates and sponsors to the open conference, possibly asking the delegates/sponsors to stay over for a second day for the meeting to discuss the delegation.
- c) On May 22 the Trades Councils' annual national delegate conference meets in Swansea and there is a real possibility of a 'fringe' meeting being organised by the sponsoring Trades Councils together with the Trades Councils affiliated to T.O.M. to gain support for the delegation.
- d) Many of the major union conferences in this country also take place around early summer and could be used as a focus for mobilising for the delegation by some local TOM groups or as a national activity.

These are all suggestions which, if the LCC decides to accept the Sub-committee's recommendation on postponement, should be discussed and decided upon. The LCC might also consider re-scheduling the NDC, which was postponed by the NCC until late July, because of the Delegation. In addition, the postponement would mean the stepping-up of fund-raising activities such as concerts etc, and the LCC should be asked to consider and act on the fact that there is a very small number of people indeed working on the financial side of the delegation.

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T.O.M. should not see the postponement of the delegation in the same light as the postponement of other events in the past, which were mainly due to cancellation of Halls etc. and resulted in a feeling of frustration which expressed itself in smaller turnouts than were hoped for. The advantages of postponing the delegation will provide the T.O.M. with an increased opportunity to give the delegation a greater impact both here and in Ireland and we should make full use of the success and support that has already been achieved.

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25.3.76