

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

18th day of September 1979

SUBJECT

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

2. "On Sunday, 16th September, 1979 a National Planning Meeting was held by 'Stop All Racist Tours' (SART) at the Central London Polytechnic, New Cavendish Street, W1 between 10.30 hrs and 12.20 hrs.

Reference to Papers

3. The meeting was opened by [Privacy] chairman of the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement, who gave a brief background to the presently planned tour of the United Kingdom by the South African Rugby Football Team. He then handed over to Mr [Privacy] of the South African Non-Racialist Olympic Committee (SANROC), who gave an account of the current situation of racialism in South African sport.

STOP ALL RACIST TOURS

4. Peter HAIN then spoke. He started by warning all present that they were committing an offence of 'conspiracy' in meeting to plan action against the tour and that therefore security was of the utmost importance. He then suggested possible forms of action to hinder the tour, much along the lines of previous actions, such as locking the players in their rooms, gluing the locks etc. and demonstrating and picketing outside the grounds. Action inside the ground could not be directed, but local organisers, being more aware of their own capabilities, should take whatever action, if any, that they felt appropriate. The difficulty of obtaining tickets for 'in-ground' action was subsequently raised and it was decided that early application for tickets was important. Delegates from the National Union of Students (NUS) considered that University Rugby Clubs were potentially a good source of obtaining these. Having outlined possible forms of action, HAIN then opened the discussion to suggestions from delegates, reminding them that the main thing was to stop the tour taking place, not just hindering it after it arrived.

400/75/140

10

25 SEP 1979

P.A. IN

5. Most delegates gave only the organisation they represented upon speaking, not their own names.

6. The first speaker who was obviously well acquainted with the chair gave neither, but it appeared he may be a member of the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA). He dealt with the possibility of action at Heathrow Airport.

.../...

It was decided that the only possible course would be to approach baggage loaders to refuse to handle the teams luggage and a picket outside the terminal, although no definite decision was reached.

7. The next speakers were from the Area Executive of the Trades Union Congress, APEX, Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staff and Transport and General Workers who all suggested possible ways of industrial action by their members to disrupt the tour, and possibly by the NUM. The only group who in fact appeared to already have their organising under way were the regional bodies of the National Union of Students.  of the South Wales NUS, gave a resume of action they had so far taken to organise protests, as did an unidentified girl from the National Executive of the NUS. (Basically they had contacted local students and made them aware of the forthcoming tour and asked them to be ready to take part in pickets and similar demonstrations.)

8. Although various purely political groups were represented, including the CPGB and SWP, their delegates did not take an active part in discussions and left some 20 minutes before the end of the meeting.

9. A member of the French organisation "Campaign Against Racism and Semitism (CARAS), detailed action they had taken to stop the team touring France and the meeting was concluded shortly afterwards with delegates being informed that contact sheets would be forwarded within the next few days. They were also urged to report back with details of their plans and possible mobilisation in due course.

10. Special Branch references to persons and organisations mentioned in this report:-

Peter HAIN

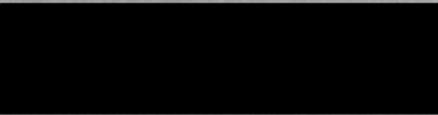

Privacy

Stop All Racist Tours

South African Non-Racial
Olympic Committee
(SANROC)

Irish Anti-Apartheid
Movement

Anti-Apartheid Movement


.../...

Transport and General Workers Union	400/79/24
APEX	Mentions
ASTMS	400/78/143
National Union of Students	400/78/65
TUC	400/78/68
CPSA	400/79/22
CPGB	400/78/151
SWP	400/79/94
French CARAS	No Trace

[Handwritten Signature]
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

10
 25 SEP 77
 P.A. IN
 M.P.-65-81883/30M