

METROPOLITAN POLICE

S.R. No. 1 (Police)

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

11th day of February 1980

SUBJECT

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

2. "On Thursday, 31st January 1980, between 8 and 10 pm, at the Hackney Trades and Labour Club, Dalston Lane, E8, the Stoke Newington Branch of the Socialist Workers Party held a meeting at which approximately twelve persons attended.

Reference to Papers

3. The meeting was called to discuss 'Bennism' and 'Left Reformism' within the Labour Party. The speaker, [redacted] Privacy, briefly outlined the discussion that took place at Party Conference on these subjects. His speech included the following statement; 'The growth of left reformism offers the Party opportunities, insofar as it offers a wider audience for all left-wing ideas. At the same time, however, it can also make it more difficult for the Party to attract people directly to ourselves, since Bennism will often seem to be a much more realistic alternative than ourselves.' [redacted] Privacy felt that if Benn came to power it would be too unrealistic to visualize the SWP aligning itself with the Labour Party. Nothing further of interest emerged from the meeting."

Socialist workers Party

400/79/191

4. Persons identified as being present:-

[redacted] Privacy [redacted]

1 Barry Moss

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

TO [redacted] 15 FEB 1980 P.A. W

[redacted]