[redacted]

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S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

Special Report

SUBJECT .....

Reference to Papers

SUBJECT:

LEA VALLEY DISTRICT OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

REFERENCE:

[redacted]/80/65

METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

3rd day of July 19 80

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

2. "On Thursday 20th March 1980, between 7.15pm and 10.15pm, at the Howard Hall, Hertford Road, Ponders End, Enfield, Middlesex the Lea Valley District of the Socialist Workers Party, under the guise of the 'Right to Work Campaign', held a public meeting. The chairman for the evening was Jonathan BARRICK, the full-time district organiser, and sixty-one persons were present.

3. The evening took the form of a play entitled 'The Participation Waltz' which was introduced and performed by the Broadside Mobile Workers' Theatre. The production was designed to highlight the many pitfalls which befall trade unionists who 'tread the precarious path towards building improved relationships between rank and file workers and management by means of worker/management participation schemes', and attempted to convince the audience of the necessity to distrust any such ideas which are put forward by management 'for the ultimate benefit of the workforce'.

4. Whilst the evening was considered a success in view of the relatively high attendance of local trade unionists and non-party members, the play was felt by many party members to be rather slow-moving and not in a distinct revolutionary socialist vein, catering rather for the militant trade unionists than embryonic party contacts. However, some crumbs of comfort were gained from the high sales of the latest Socialist Workers Party pamphlet 'Defend Our Unions - Tory Anti-Union Laws and How to Fight Them' and a collection which raised £10.26½p for the steel strikers.

5. Following a short period of discussion after the completion of the play, the arguments rapidly degenerated into a sectarian battle between members of the International Marxist Group, Revolutionary Communist Tendency and Socialist Workers Party all of which seemed to baffle the 'ordinary trade unionists present'."

TO [redacted]

.../...

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6. The following persons were identified at the meeting:-

Privacy

7. The International Marxist Group and the Revolutionary Communist Tendency are dealt with on 400/60/27 and 400/60/42 respectively.

1

[redacted]

T. Butler

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

[redacted]

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