

METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

...30.....day of.....November.....1973..

Special Report }

SUBJECT ..Fight....

On: Public Meeting

Reference to Papers

400/73/191

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

2. "A public meeting of Fight On (formerly known as Lotta Continua) was held from 5pm to 10.30pm on Saturday, 24 November, 1973 at All Saints Hall, Fowis Square, London W11. It was attended by about 50 people, the large majority of whom appeared to be Italians, with the remainder being British anarchist types.

3. The Chairman and main speaker was Fulvio GRIMALDI. GRIMALDI introduced a number of films, mainly of poor quality and sound, on such topics as the Liverpool dockers' strike, the exploitation of women, the work of Lotta Continua in organising squatters in Milan to take over occupation of several newly built luxury flats, and finally a film on the exploitation of Southern Italians and Sicilians who had emigrated to the Northern Italian industrial centres.

4. The showing of these films was interspersed with the singing of revolutionary songs by a group of Italians; GRIMALDI himself playing the leading part and providing the background music on his guitar. A tall, slim, young dusky Spaniard from the Antonio Machado Club in London also played the guitar and sang a Spanish revolutionary song.

5. The three main speakers were GRIMALDI, an unidentified thick set Italian man aged about 40 years with black hair and 'Zapata' moustache and a young woman who is known to have been a member of Claimants' Union.

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6. GRIMALDI spoke of the bad conditions experienced by Italian workers in terms of low wages and slum housing, and of how Fight On, or Lotta Continua as the organisation is known in Italy, had organised them to fight against the oppressive Italian Government. He said that the struggle of the Italian proletariat was linked to the struggle of all oppressed peoples throughout the world, such as in Chile, Spain, Portugal, here in Britain, and also in Ireland against the imperialist British Government.

7. GRIMALDI spoke of the need for those present and their various comrades elsewhere to organise themselves locally and to take over by force the running of their own communities. He said that this process could begin there in North Kensington by mobilising the people to occupy their factories and places of work, to occupy empty houses and luxury flats, and to demand free transport for workers. This struggle could then be carried to other parts of London and eventually to the whole country,

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linking up with the struggles of oppressed peoples in other countries. He said they had to smash 'phase three' and the international robbery of the ruling class. Remember, he said, 'they need us but we don't need them because we, the workers, supply the wealth, and the ruling class live off us like parasites.'

8. The other two speakers spoke in similar vein. The other male Italian speaker was very faint and incoherent. He confined himself mainly to describing the work of Lotta Continua in Italy. The female English speaker described the various proletarian struggles throughout Europe by such groups as Lotta Continua in Italy, the Bader Meinhoff Group in West Germany, and other groups in France and Spain. She linked those struggles with the ones here in Britain and in Ireland, and pressed those present to become more involved in organising their comrades and other workers in running their own communities and eventually to take over the State itself.

9. GRIMALDI closed the meeting by urging all present to bring their friends and anyone else to participate in a demonstration supporting the Troops out of Ireland Movement to be held on Saturday, 1 December 1973 from 2pm starting from Shepherds Bush Green. He also announced that further meetings of Fight On would be held at 60 St Ervan's Road, London W10 the headquarters of the organisation and that future events would be well publicised by posters in West London and through the medium of the magazine 'Time Out'. Also any enquiries about the organisation or anyone wishing to join it would be welcomed at this address.

Those present were:-

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Special Branch references are given in the attached Appendix.

1 HN299/HN342  
Constable

Submitted:

2 [Redacted]

Chief Inspector

[Redacted] CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT



A P P E N D I X to Special Branch report dated 30.11.73  
concerning a "Fight On" Public Meeting on 24.11.73

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Fulvio GRIMALDI

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