S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

Special Report

SUBJECT

Reference to Papers

Troops Out Movement (TOM)

400/81/123

BOX 500

[redacted]

METROPOLITAN POLICE

[redacted]

SPECIAL BRANCH

20th day of November 19

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

2. On Monday 16th November 1981 between 7 - 11pm at the Prince Albert Public House, Wharfdale Road, N1 the National Steering Committee of the Troops Out Movement (TOM) held a meeting.

3. Submitted herewith is a copy of the minutes of the meeting which provide full details of all matters discussed.

4. The following persons are known to have attended:-

Privacy

[redacted]

1

Trevor Butler

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

RO [redacted]

-1 DEC 1981

84 IM

[redacted]

MINUTES OF T.O.M. STEERING COMMITTEE 16 NOVEMBER 1981

Apologies: Privacy (Enfield), Privacy (S-E London), Privacy (S London)

Present: Privacy
From Branches: Privacy

Deadline for Internal Bulletin is 26th. November.

Sinn Fein Ardfheis - Report for circulation to branches.

Meeting has been arranged with member of Northern Ireland Committee of National Council of Civil Liberties for Tuesday 17th.

Correspondence

Reports from Branches

NORWICH

1) Notified change of address
2) Requested copy of CND leaflet (Copies being circulated to all branches.
3) Requested address of East London Trades Unionists in Solidarity. Address to be circulated to branches (this is being done).
4) Wanted to know date of return of Ken Livingstone petition. Also why we have a separate petition from LCI's (none of us have heard of their's).

NEWCASTLE

1) Poster and badge order.
2) Prisoners' statements - have been forwarded to Privacy
3) Can they have report on Sinn Fein Ardfheis (dealt with).

BIRMINGHAM

H Block/Armagh Committee have voted to become a Troops Out branch. They have a motion going forward to their Trades Council which they want circulated to branches.: "In view of the fact that plastic bullets used by the British Army and the Royal Ulster Constabulary allegedly for riot control have caused the deaths of several innocent civilians, including children, and serious injury, usually gross brain damage, to many more, this Trades Council resolves to call on the Home Secretary to put an immediate stop to these brutal weapons in N. Ireland and also ban their proposed usage in Britain."

Note: The Plastic Bullets pamphlet will soon be available from the Office. Branches should each get a copy.

MANCHESTER

The Hunger Strike/Troops Out Committee are planning a campaign to urge Manchester City Concil to withdraw facilities from the Army which recruits within the boundary of the city. Sheffield City Council has already done this. Can we provide Manchester with info and/or useful contacts.

They are also planning a day-school on 'The British Media and Ireland.' They want any useful film titles. Has anyone got a video of 'Gone for a Soldier'. NB. The Other Cinema is producing a leaflet with all the films available from them on Ireland.

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GREENWICH TRADES COUNCIL

They would welcome any advice we have on how to awaken Trade Union consciousness about the FTA.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE POLY want a TOM speaker on a Wednesday afternoon or evening in a few weeks'time. To be solicited from Birmingham.

MOSLEM STUDENTS SOCIETY have invited us to Iranian Support Group managerial meeting. Privacy (External Affairs) is to attend on behalf of Steering Committee.

ROADSHOW IN IRELAND

Starting Dublin on Dec. 4th., touring countryside, back in Dublin on Dec. 20th. Funds required. Agreed to donate 100 posters 'No British Solution' which they can sell and raise funds for themselves. Donations to Privacy Privacy (Roadshow a follow-up on manger strike support).

SMASH THE FTA CAMPAIGN - next planning meeting at PCL, 8pm Friday.

BULMERSH COLLEGE READING

Youth and Community Work Dept. would like a speaker with video for a day educational they're organising on Ireland. They will ring Office with details of date. To be discussed further next week.

ANC HEROES DAY on Dec. 16th. Ann (External Affairs) to send message of solidarity.

'GIVE US A FUTURE' march and rally, London Nov. 29th. Privacy is arranging a leaflet.

BILL QUINN EXTRADITION

British Govt. is attempting to extradite Bill Quinn, whose family has resided in US for 30 years. Part of a policy of intimidation of Irish-American community. Message of solidarity to be sent with the signatures of all of Steering Committee.

FRENCH JOURNALISTS - meeting has been stopped by Language School manager. The union involved is to decide on a course of action.

YORK COMMUNITY BOOKSHOP BOOKLIST ON IRELAND

Copies going to Branches. Further copies obtainable from them with a stamped addressed envelope.

Last Weeks' Minutes

A number of points were raised on the minutes. This discussion was divided into two sections, one on how to produce the minutes; the other on how the 'Mary Nellis meeting' discussion was minuted.

1) Proposal to have a minutes secretary. Agreed. Privacy and Privacy at Office to bring proposal back to next weeks' meeting. It was felt that the minutes had improved but they could go on improving. Minutes are important as they are the movement's major contact with the Steering Committee.

2) Initially, when we were approached about a meeting with Mary Nellis, we felt it unwise in the present atmosphere to advertise a public meeting. Having decided to have a closed meeting, we decided to invite, on the basis of Conference's decision to build links with national minorities/anti-racist groups etc., the groups named in last weeks' minutes (NO all of them bona fide British political groups). Other sections of the Withdrawal movement, including Labour movement contacts, will be drawn into a future meeting.

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Minutes of Conference

Typist did the best she could with what was made available. Suggested that in future we tape sessions. Meanwhile the Office is to get the minutes and attempt to fill in the gaps, and then to bring them to SC for an assessment oftheir accuracy and usefulness.

December 7th. Meeting

Meeting to be held at 104-8 Holsover Street, Students Union, at 8pm.

A meeting has been held with the Indian Workers Association to discuss how we can build links with anti-imperialist groups. A more detailed report will be drawn up in the near future as SC members are at present engaged in a series of meetings with individuals who have advice to offer on this matter.

The speakers on December 7th. will be Mary Nellis, Bradford 12 Defence Committee Rep., Indian Workers Association delegate, with Privacy (ex-Central London) in the chair.

London branches are asked to send members to the meeting, but to bear in mind the limitations on space. At least one person from each branch must attend.

Labour Movement Meeting

A meeting with Labour and Trade Union contacts is to be held in January. SC are to hold extensive discussions with TOM branches on how to structure the meeting. Can London branches feedback ideas.

FUNDRAISING

TOM Benefit 11/12/1981 Polytechnic of Central London

Posters and tickets have been printed. Difficulties have arisen with one of the bands(The Passions). Privacy (fundraising) has given himself one week to find another band. Otherwise the gig will be cancelled as the financial stakes are too high.

Christmas Cards

Printing is expected to go ahead this week. Please find enclosed leaflet detailing goods for sale. Christmas cards and calendars are a priority as they date. Get your orders in soon.

PUBLICITYMEETING

Wednesday's publicity meeting with Privacy and a Financial Times journalist has been postponed. A provisional date is being fixed for early December.

BLOODY SUNDAY

Meeting with Commemoration Committee will sort out about coaches, advertising etc.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Procedures suggested by Treasurer to the Office to be discussed at November Office Workers meeting. £100 has been donated for Office equipment by a member of West London TOM. Decision to be taken at Office Workers meeting.

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On the Office Levy, can branches follow the decision of Conference and arrange with the Treasurer to pay their levy.

Also, can Standing Order forms be waved under the noses of high wage earners, as this is felt to be a more secure form of financing. We will run into difficulties if money is not forthcoming. Please include TOM on your needy list to Santa Claus.

SECURITY

Leaflet of advice will be drawn up after Privacy consultation with the NCCL.

THE LEFT AND THE TOM

The Socialist Workers Party are to be approached about a meeting between them and us to clarify their position vis a vis the TOM.

Socialist Action and Socialist Organiser are to be approached about exchange of information vis a vis the suggestion in their paper that we convene a public meeting on the way forward for the Withdrawal movement.

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PROPOSAL FOR A TOM QUARTERLY JOURNAL

It is proposed that subject to: a) the conclusions of a feasibility study, and: b) sufficient commitment to its successful production being shown throughout the TOM and our periphery, a TOM quarterly journal be launched.

The proposed journal would be well produced and visually striking, and would include longer articles, interviews, photographic presentations, reviews etc. than can fit into the TOM monthly. Rather than cutting across the TOM monthly, the production of a quarterly could in fact release it from the impossible task of covering all the necessary ground in detail in such a limited time span.

The proposed journal could fill the gap left by the folding of Ireland Socialist Review and provide historical analysis, detailed coverage of events in Ireland, England, Scotland, and Wales, articles on Women in Ireland, neo-colonial solutions to the Irish Question, articles on other colonial wars and the lessons that can be drawn, the effect of the war in Ireland on repression in this country, developments in the labour movement on the question of Ireland etc., etc.

While being editorially controlled by the TOM, we would hope to draw in contributions to the journal from wider sources than just TOM members. Members of the old Ireland Socialist Review collective have expressed great interest in contributing to the project, and we would welcome contributions from anti-imperialist and anti-racist groups on the relationship between their struggles and the Irish struggle. Throwing the net wider than the TOM would give the journal a varied character and wider appeal, and one section could be devoted to debate with those who share our aims but not our methods: i.e. LCI, Labour Party Left. This opening of a debate could provide a valuable forum for clarifying our arguments about the best method of building an anti war movement in an imperialist country.

We would welcome comments, criticisms, or promises of or ideas for contributions to the proposed journal. Please send them to the TOM Office.

Privacy (Propaganda Sec.)
pp Steering Committee

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EVENTS...EVENTS...EVENTS...EVENTS...EVENTS...EVENTS...EVENTS...

LONDON

NOVEMBER

Saturday 21st

-East London Troops Out Benefit:live music, food and booze at the Hackney Labour and Trades Club, 98 Dalston Lane, E8. 8-11. £1 in.

-National Youth Left Wing Conference: Caxton House, St John's Way, Archway, N19. Starts 11. Sessions on unemployment, YOPS, fighting racism, youth culture, womens' liberation etc. £2 or 50p unwaged. C/O Box 5277, London WC1.
(22 Nov - see end of next page for details of TQ film meeting)

Tuesday 24th

-Joint LCI and Camden and Islington TOM meeting at 7.30 at The Council Chambers, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, N1.

Wednesday 25th

-Continueing course at Goldsmith College, London School of Adult and Social Studies;
Week 4 History of the Irish in SE London
Week 5 Current concerns of the Irish in SE London
Week 6 Evaluation and discussion of ways in which subjects and areas of interest can be followed up. Course fee £3.

Friday 27th

-'Smash the ITA march' at 5pm, assemble Mornington Crescent Tube Called by RCP.

Saturday 28th

-Conradh na Gaeilge, Londain (51 East Dulwich Road, London SE 22) Prize giving lecture day for Irish speakers at the Irish Club, Eaton Square, SW1. Tickets £3 - three lectures
History of the London Gaelic League (in english)
The importance of the Irish language to Irish people today (in Irish)
Short Story in 'modern Irish'
Buffet and live traditional music 11.45 am to 5 pm

-Camden and Islington Benefit, the film Curious Journey followed by discussion at the Hemingford Arms, Offord Road, N1.

-Greenwich Labour Party Day School 'Ireland - the way forward'. Credentials from Privacy
Fee £2.50 includes lunch.

Sunday 29th

-March for Youth, sponsored by TUC. Assemble Hyde Park from 11am March starts at 12so to Rally in Jubilee Gardens on the South Bank 2pm to 6pm. Jobs for Youth Campaign.

DECEMBER

-Early December
Media workshop. Contact Press Officer, Privacy to arrange date, if you are interested.

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EVENTS CONTD...EVENTS CONTD...EVENTS CONTD...EVENTS CONTD...

December

Friday 4th

-Opening of Armagh Womens' Exhibition at the Islington Bus Co, Palmer Place, off Holloway Road, N7. 6.30-8

-Evening: Women Only social, live music at North London Poly, Suudents Union Bar, Ladbroke House, Highbury Grove, N5 8.30-11pm ADM 75p

-Victor Jara Festival 7pm at Camden Centre, Bidborough St, WC1 Tickets £2.50 from Carila Resource Centre, 29 Islington Park Street, N1 Tel 359 2270. Cheques to 'Victor Jara Committee'.

Monday 7th - 11th

-Armagh Women's Exhibition at North London Poly, address above, lunchtimes.

Wednesday 16th

-ANC 'Heroes Day', the Assembly Room, Central Hall, Westminster, SW1 at 7pm.

MANCHESTER

Mon 23rd November

-LCI meeting at Manchester Town Hall Basement, 7.30pm 'Ireland and the Missiles'

Thurs10th December

-LCI business meeting to discuss their Annual Conference, Town Hall at 7.30pm

Sat 19th December

-LCI xmas p[illegible]ty contact Box 15, 164/5 Corn Exchange Buildings, Hanging Di[illegible], Manchester.

[illegible] BRADFORD

Sat 14th December

-Bradford 12 march at 1.30 Lister Park, Manningham Lane, Bradford Contact July 11th Action Committee, C/O 4th Ideal Bookshop, 14 Southgate, Bradford.

NATIONAL EVENTS...NATIONAL EVENTS...NATIONAL EVENTS

Manchester Sunday 29th November

Manchester Martyrs March Assemble 2pm at St Patricks Church, Oldham Road, Manchester. Ring office for coach details.

Coventry Sunday 31st January '82

Bloody Sunday Memorial March. Contact Committee at 21 Holland Road, London NW10

London Saturday 28th February '82

LCI conference 'Ireland: Time for Tory Policies to Go' at the Theatre, 309 Regent Street, London W1. Credentials Privacy

Privacy

Troops Out Film meeting Sunday 22 Nov at 2pm at Cinema Action, 27/28 Winchester Road, London NW6

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