

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

day of March 1977

SUBJECT

Socialist Workers

Party

Reference to Papers

100/77/17

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

2. The North London District of the Socialist Workers Party is currently engaged in organizing a number of separate campaigns in the Islington area.

1 [Redacted]

1. They have recently launched a campaign against hospital cuts and have so far conducted Saturday morning meetings outside Sainsbury's, Holloway Road, N7, on 18.2.77 and 26.2.77, with the aim of collecting signatures for a petition - to be presented to the local Health Authority - demanding that the nine hospitals in the Central London and Islington areas be kept open and that increased funds be made available to the Health Service. The campaign would seem to be receiving considerable public support, with the result that the SWP have high hopes of making 'political mileage' through these tactics.

2 [Redacted]

2. They have also formed an anti-Jubilee' campaign aimed at disrupting the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebrations in the North London area. It is thought that the teachers' branch of the SWP is prominent in this activity, but no specific plans are being made until more information about the official celebrations is known.

3. The Islington 18 Defence Committee (referred to previously) is not yet fully underway because its members are waiting to see the extent of police enquiries and issuing charges. In the meantime, with the support of the Islington branch of the SWP, the Committee is being particularly watchful of police actions to see if these can be foisted in any way.

4. With regard to the campaign to save the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, the SWP North London District Committee is trying to keep enthusiasm for the Party's picketing outside the hospital on Thursday evenings at a high level, being aware that

[Redacted]

some political initiative has already been lost to the International Herald Group and others; the Committee also holds the view that the Hospital authorities will soon try to complete their closure.

7. Members of the North London District of the NCP have for sometime been trying to involve themselves in a local industrial dispute (presumably one with racial undertones) and they see the same various campaigns as a useful method of earning their acceptability on the industrial front.

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