

S.D.S.

METROPOLITAN POLICE

S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

SPECIAL BRANCH

Special Report

31st day of March 19 82

SUBJECT

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

2. "On Thursday, 25th March 1982, between 7.30 - 9.30pm at [Privacy], the home of [Privacy], a member of the Irish Republican Socialist Party, a meeting of the 'May 8th Organising Committee' took place attended by the following people:-

Reference to Papers

May 8th Demonstration Organising Committee'

[Privacy]

Convenor

Secretary

Mike JAMES

Treasurer

[Privacy]

I.P.S.P.

Press Officer

Armagh Womens Group

Two representatives from the Indian Workers Association.

[Privacy]

3. It had been hoped to book Camden Town Hall to hold a rally at the end of the march but [Privacy] informed the meeting that the Local Authority had written to say that the hall was unavailable on that date. Ken LIVINGSTONE had written to the Committee agreeing to sponsor the march but had to decline an invitation to speak at the rally, because of other engagements. He did say that he totally agreed with the withdrawal of troops from Northern Ireland so that the Irish could determine their own future and said that he could be quoted. Apparently LIVINGSTONE had told [Privacy] that County Hall could be used as a rallying point if desired. The Committee agreed that the march will assemble at 1.00pm at Speakers Corner, and, although not totally clarified, to go to County Hall where a rally will be held (it was felt that if the march was banned a rally could still be held at Speakers Corner).

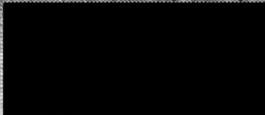
BOX 800

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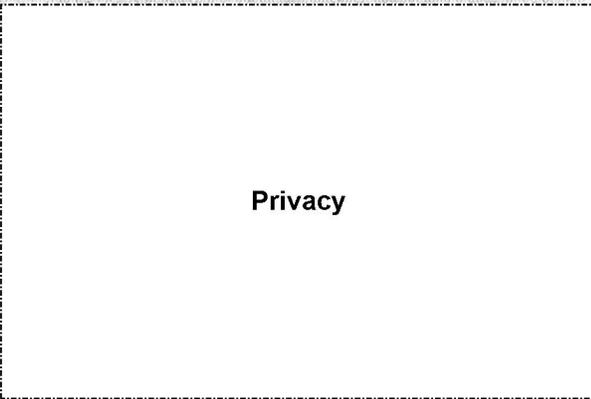


4. The main speakers, who have confirmed that they will address the participants, are Owen CARRON and Dafydd Ellis THOMAS, Members of Parliament. Efforts are being made to persuade Bernadette McALISKY to attend the demonstration, although McALISKY has indicated that she is unlikely to be present.

5. **Privacy** has contacted 'Time Out' and 'City Limits' with a view to them publishing an article before the demonstration. Leaflets have been prepared giving details of the May 8th Demonstration and these were distributed on the El Salvador march on Sunday 28th March 1982. (leaflet attached). Representatives from the Indian Workers Association (IWA) told the meeting that the Association expected good support from its members on May 8th and that the demonstration was being publicised at all I.V.A. meetings.

6. It is known that **Privacy** is to address a PSF meeting on Thursday, 6th May 1982, at the Irish Centre."

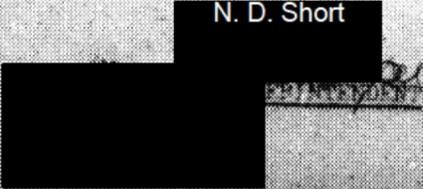
7. References:-



Privacy

- Ken LIVINGSTONE FF 102/74/224
- Owen CARRON Member of Parliament
- Dafydd Ellis THOMAS Member of Parliament
- Bernadette McALISKY FF 109 **Privacy**
- IRSP 100/79/71
- IWA 100/80/110

N. D. Short



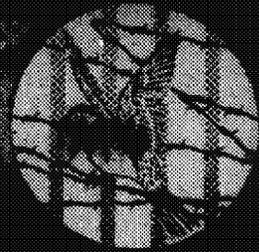
DEMONSTRATE IN LONDON



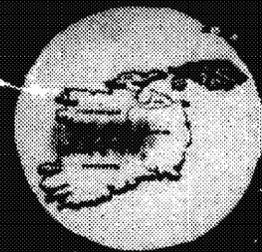
**MAY
8th**

BRITAIN OUT OF IRELAND
SELF DETERMINATION FOR THE IRISH PEOPLE

**MAY
8th**



May 8th Demonstration Organising Committee



BRITAIN OUT OF IRELAND SELF DETERMINATION FOR THE IRISH PEOPLE

DEMONSTRATION SPONSORED BY:

Owen Carson MP, Dafydd Iwan Thomas MP, Dafydd Wigley MP, Eric Roberts MP, Ken Livingstone, Mick Cavanagh
 GLC Councillors Steve Bundred, Valerie Rice and Andy Harris, Barnes & Richmond CLP, Tunbridge Wells CLP,
 Bristol Black Women's Group, Armagh Women's Group, Mick Martin (Chair Hammersmith Trades Council, in personal capacity),
 Coventry Workers' Group, Walsley VE, Red Action, St. London Anti-Apartheid, Release (Drug Action Grp), Sinn Fein,
 U.S.A.: Paul O'Dwyer, Rev. Danie' Benjamin, Black United Front, The Mary Raza Foundation, Frank Derkin, W.C.S. 1974
 Joan Maynard MP, Edgbaston LFYS, Ireland's Libs, Connolly Association, Desmond Greaves, Azania Solidarity Committee

On May 5th last year Bobby Sands, the 27-year-old MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, died after 66 agonising days on hunger strike in the H-Blocks. Over the next six months nine other young men met the same fate while Thatcher and the other hypocrites in the British government cruelly ignored appeals from political and religious leaders throughout the world to come to an agreement with the prisoners. Their deaths, the massive support in Ireland for the prisoners and unprecedented worldwide criticism of Britain has fostered a growing awareness here that Britain has no place ruling any part of Ireland.

"Northern Ireland" is an artificial state created by the British Government and maintained by British troops against the wishes of the majority of Irish people. The British state has answered opposition to its rule over the last 13 years with repressive laws in the Six Counties, the systematic erosion of civil liberties, internment and the special legal system of juryless courts set up to try political offences. We have also seen the refinement of techniques of control and repression — torture and sensory deprivation techniques, plastic and rubber bullets (27,000 were fired last year, killing 7 people), intensive surveillance of the population, computer records containing detailed information and so on.

The repressive techniques that are used in Northern Ireland, and which were intensified during the Hunger Strike, are not reserved for the Six Counties. During last year's riots, the police force went over to learn from the Royal Ulster Constabulary, a para-military police force, about the use of plastic bullets, CS gas and how to use armoured cars for crowd control. This has been the main Government response to the unemployment and deprivation that is causing unrest here, just as it is the response to the problems in Ireland. Furthermore, repressive laws passed in Ireland have had an effect over here. The Prevention of Terrorism Act, which was first passed in 1974, has been used to detain over 5,000 people (the vast majority Irish), out of whom 80% or more were innocent and never charged.

Millions of pounds are spent by Britain in Northern Ireland on the Army, police, courts, prisons and repressive technology — expenditure that leaves Northern Ireland with the worst unemployment and housing in Europe, which shores up the undemocratic Unionist regime, and which poisons political life over here, encouraging the unemployed youth of England, Scotland and Wales to join the British Army and become part of an anti-working class force.

Increasingly, people are asking why this has to continue. World opinion has long recognised that there can be no peace in Ireland until Britain leaves and Ireland is reunited. The Labour-Tory bipartisan policy has been undermined and there is beginning to be growing support for withdrawal inside the Labour Party. By supporting the May 8th demonstration you can add your voice to those that say Britain has no right to be there. Get your Trade Union or other organisation to sponsor the march and send a donation.

BRITAIN OUT OF IRELAND, SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE IRISH PEOPLE

DEMONSTRATE ON MAY 8th IN LONDON

Organised by Labour Party branches in London and other areas. Contact your local Labour Party branch for more information.