

S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

27th day of September 1963

SUBJECT

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

"On Saturday 27th September 1963 it was the intention of East London Workers Against Racism (ELWAR) to show a token presence (c. 20 persons) on the Newham 8 Defence Campaign march, scheduled to take place on the afternoon of that date through East Ham and Upton Park, commencing at Plashet Park, E7, at 1.30pm.

Subject:
East London
Workers
Against Racism
(ELWAR)

2. According to ELWAR members a preliminary meeting of stewards had agreed that the ELWAR contingent, as anti-racists, would position itself between the black groups and the anti-separatist groups i.e. in a fairly prominent position near the head of the march (see attached leaflet for order of march). However, once the ELWAR banner and personnel were in position the organisers reconsidered and decided that, since they are merely a 'front' for the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) they should be situated at the rear of the march with the other miscellaneous political groups. Since ELWAR regards the Newham 8 Defence Campaign as little more than a 'quango' of class traitors, compliance was unthinkable, coupled, as it would have been, with the further indignity of marching behind the Labour Party. Comrades therefore closed ranks and refused to move, a stance which resulted in allegations that they were deliberately disrupting the march for their own sectarian ends.

Reference to Papers

400/83/101

BOX 500

3. [Privacy] of the Revolutionary Communist Group (RCG) then took advantage of the opportunity to voice his organisation's opinions of the RCP and loudly accused ELWAR comrades of being racists, agents of the Police and of the South African security services. To chants of "Racists out" the ELWAR banner was forcibly dragged to one side and there ensued a lively melee which, owing to the presence of uniformed Police, did not escalate into real violence.

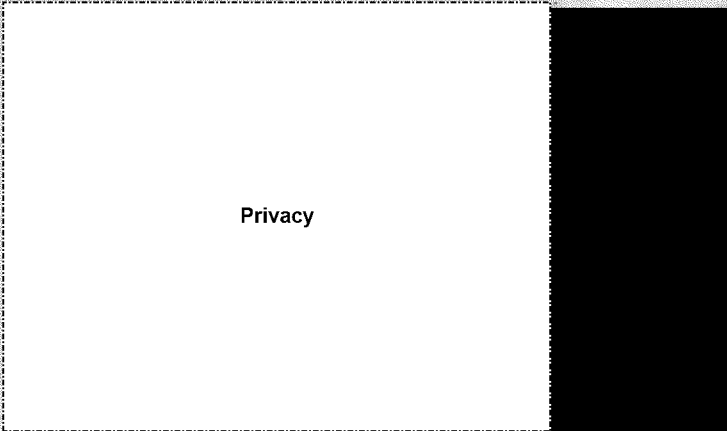
4. The march then moved off (at about 2.15pm) without the ELWAR members, who were unable to participate since one of their banner poles had been broken. (In fact it had been deliberately and discreetly snapped by [Privacy] to give ELWAR supporters an excuse for avoiding the humiliation of being placed at the very end of the march).

contd....



5. This incident, hardly worthy of note in itself, illustrates how ELWAR (i.e. the RCP), in addition to its predictable attitude against lawful authority, has a perverse knack of antagonising those left-wing elements with which it might be regarded, by any reasonable standards, to express a degree of solidarity.

6. The following ELWAR/RCP members and supporters were identified at the Newham 9 Defence Campaign march on 25th September 1987:-



7. References to other persons and organisations mentioned in this report are as follows:-

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Privacy | | |
| Newham 9 Defence Campaign | - 400/82/115 | |
| Revolutionary Communist Group (RCG) | - 400/83/67 | |
| Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) | - 400/83/100 | |

for CHIEF SUPERVISOR



YOUR RIGHTS ON ARREST

IF YOU ARE ARRESTED:

DO **DO NOT**

DO show your name and address to the person nearest to you and ask them to notify Newham Rights Centre (525 3331). Report the request at the police station as you have the right to have someone informed.

DO ask why you have been arrested as you are entitled to know.
 DO note the number of the police officers involved in your arrest.
 DO give your name and address to the police.

DO NOT resist arrest.
 DO NOT make a written statement or sign anything except a list of your possessions.
 DO NOT plead guilty to anything.

KEEP THIS LEAFLET

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE 525 3331

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NEWHAM 8 DEFENCE CAMPAIGN

Order of March

Newham 8 lorry
Newham 8 Defence Campaign
Black groups
Anti-Imperialist groups
Women's groups
Gay groups
Trades Unions
Labour Party and LPYS
Other political groups

Official Slogans

SELF DEFENCE IS NO OFFENCE

NEWHAM 8 ARE INNOCENT

THE ONLY CONSPIRACY IS A POLICE CONSPIRACY

Collection

The Campaign is desperately short of money. For this reason the only collection that will be allowed is the official one for the Newham 8 Defence Campaign. Buckets for this collection will be clearly marked.

WARNING!

West Ham United Football Club are playing at home today. The match has been planned to avoid contact with football supporters. However you are asked to take special care when you go home from the march or meeting. If at all possible avoid the area near the football ground, including East Ham, Upton Park and Plaistow Stations. The safest route out of the area by public transport is via Forest Gate BR Station, Stratford LT and BR Station, or buses from the Romford Road. The stewards will be glad to advise.

ROUTE

