

Yard officers at police tactics on demonstrations

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Senior Scotland Yard officers studying the implications of Saturday's clash with demonstrators against the National Front, are looking at tactics that a change in the law would alter their basic dilemma.

Strengthening the Public Order Act, would still leave the police in the position of having to enforce it.

Mr David McNeve, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, is known to feel that the main difficulty would still be how to keep the peace if sections of the community, however small, is determined not to cooperate with the police in any way.

But, as he said on Monday, he has no intention of abdication of responsibility in the face of groups who threaten to achieve their ends by violent means. That being so, Scotland Yard chiefs are looking at tactics, bearing in mind that the safety of officers is paramount. The hope that they will be able to create a special squad to deal with demonstrators, as in France.

Mr McNeve's views about seeking to ban a march remain unchanged. The police believe

that if a ban had been imposed on Saturday's march there would be increasing pressure to ban similar demonstrations of police injuries. Lewisham is viewed as being serious, but the National Front is not. The sample of the sort of violence police have to deal with these days.

On one day during the Grunwick dispute 120 policemen were injured. Last year at Nottingham during the riot more than a hundred police were taken to hospital after being injured. On Saturday 56 policemen were injured. In terms of arrests, the 200 at Lewisham compare with more than a hundred at ball matches in the Metropolitan Police district on a representative day.

It is true, however, that the viciousness of the weapons and the type of violence used on Saturday is not, therefore, something Mr McNeve took into account when he decided to call for a ban before Saturday's events and said the police could cope with them.

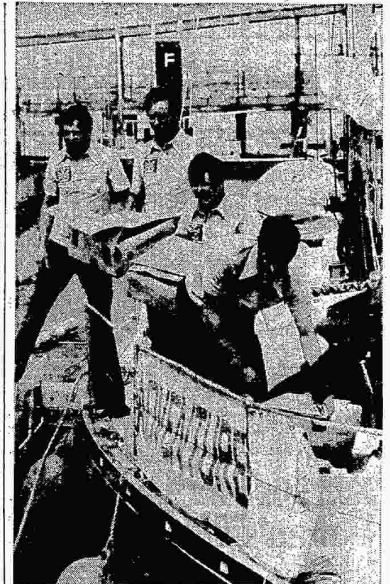
At the past the National Front had carried out police instructions, so its cooperation

in that respect at least was assumed. In the event it was forthcoming, though when the Home Secretary, the Commissioner, David Helm, in charge of operations, if the demonstrators have to keep order if the Socialist Workers' Party's supporters arrived to intervene.

The conflict in Birmingham on Monday night is regarded by senior Yard officers as demonstrating an even stronger point; that under the Representation of the People Act party candidates are entitled to be present at meetings during election campaigns.

By cancelling the negotiating committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) was holding one of its regular meetings at Scotland Yard yesterday, which gave Mr McNeve the chance to discuss the situation with other chief officers in the Midlands, Mr Knights, of West Midlands.

Afterwards the ACPO issued a statement associating itself with the police. Mr McNeve has to enforce it and the Front would still have the option of



Round-the-world race: Sergeant Sharon Hope (third from left), aged 23, an instructor at the Army Physical Training School at Bulford, Wiltshire, is joining nine men to form the Services' crew for the first stage of the Whitbread Round-the-World Yacht Race. She is seen joining to load stores in the Royal Navy's training yacht Adventure, which sails on the first leg from Portsmouth to Cape Town on August 27.

Many immigrants regard themselves as scapegoats

Orbital view from the Moonshot Youth Club

By Alan Hamilton

The Moonshot Youth Club is an aging, solitary building, a lone survivor in a huge building surrounded by the rubble of a brick's throw from last Saturday's ugly battlefront of Lewisham. The local black community it serves is beleaguered, underprivileged and in need of friends.

A group of club members and officials spoke to me yesterday about the outbreak of rioting. All asked that they should not be named in this article, but they were treated with caution, and the door is kept locked until credentials have been established.

A young community worker summed up the immigrant viewpoint, to wit: "We are just scapegoats for other people's ambitions. Neither the National Front nor the Socialist Workers' Party have any real concern for blacks; they just use them as a shield because we are a readily identifiable group which some politicians would like to attack."

Another said: "Make no mistake; there are quite a few

Ladywood politicians' cost of clash

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

As the people of Birmingham yesterday counted the cost of the previous night's anti-racist riot, party workers involved in the campaign for tomorrow's Ladywood by-election assessed the cost in political terms.

Some party officials said they thought that the total involvement of the Socialist Workers' Party and Socialist Union in the battles with the police might swing the uncommitted vote to the Liberals or Conservatives.

Mr Raghub Ansan, the Socialist Union candidate, said he regretted that the party had used Ulster tactics of violence. "We were not prepared to stop the [National Front] meeting," he said.

Mr Ansan said the Socialist Workers' Party candidate, said he was not a member of the party. "I will not accept that the party has any role in this," he said.

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Cricklewood Botterill set plan to take end backlog chess lead

Postal workers at Cricklewood last night agreed on a peace formula after a five-day dispute posing a new threat to mail in north-west London.

The dispute began when 126 postmen complained that they were being asked to clear a huge backlog more quickly than had been agreed.

After talks lasting most of the day they agreed to work a 2-hour shift. The formula includes voluntary Sunday working and a Sunday delivery.

Cricklewood suffered big mail backlogs last month when postmen were suspended for refusing to handle letters and packages from the Grunwick workers' strike.

Yesterday Mr Norman Straggs, deputy general secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers, said "satisfactory" agreements had been reached with the district postmaster.

The Post Office said: "We are glad the overtime difficulties have been resolved, but there was never any question of increasing the wage rate. We are dealing with everything on a date order basis; the first to go out comes in the first to go out."

'Financial Times'

Because of a continuing dispute involving composers the Financial Times was not printed last night. It is the seventh day that it has failed to appear.

Blow to race harmony in Birmingham

Continued from page 1

that people should not be allowed to march to intimidate racial minorities. When demonstrations of that kind happened it was probable that people would take weapons there.

On the same programme, Mr James Stewart, general secretary of the Labour Party, appealed to all its members to keep away from extreme left and right. Labour was a party of violence. A planned campaign implies by definition the exercise of violence.

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Mr Webster, defiant about the recent demonstrations, said prosecutions should be brought against the leadership. "It is not right that those who have conspired to defy the provisions of the Public Order Act. They are going to try to bring the law into disrepute in all the naked violence they can muster, but our election machine will not be deceived."

"It is clear they want to spread the very air that we breathe. They want to prevent us exercising our civil rights. It is not us that cause the violence. We did not throw stones at anyone in a demonstration. It was the National Front who have conspired to defy the provisions of the Public Order Act. They are going to try to bring the law into disrepute in all the naked violence they can muster, but our election machine will not be deceived."

Front chief accuses Socialist Workers' leaders over violence in London

By Robert Parker

Mr Stephen Joffers, national secretary of the Socialist Workers' Party, accused the leaders of the Socialist Workers' Party of violence at Lewisham on Saturday.

"Police commissioner McNeve, in his statement after the Lewisham march, talked of an orchestrated march, but that is not the case. It was a spontaneous march. It was a march of violence. A planned campaign implies by definition the exercise of violence."

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Man who threw a bottle is fined £100

Jeffrey Patterson, of Maidstone, Kent, who threw a bottle into a National Front demonstration on April 23, was fined £100 by magistrates at Fotherham, north London yesterday for using threatening and abusive language.

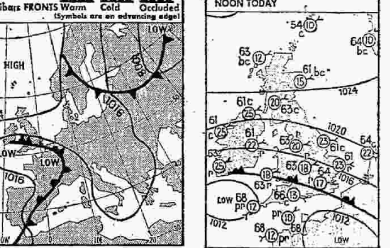
Mr Patterson said he had not given after his solicitor had said that Mr Patterson had been charged with using force to hamper the Front as much as possible. He was ordered to pay £50 towards costs.

Demand for a ban on Scottish rally

The General Council of the Scottish TUC, yesterday called on Scottish local authorities to refuse to allow the National Front to hold a demonstration, probably in Edinburgh, later this year.

The National Front spokesman of the Scottish TUC, said the Front's policy statements were in direct breach of race relations legislation. He said Mr Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, had been asked to bring forward legislation curbing the Front's activities.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 5.49 am Sun sets: 8.19 pm
Moon rises: 8.50 am Moon sets: 9.38 pm

First frost: August 22, 1976
Lighting up: 4.49 pm to 5.21 am
High water: London Bridge, 4.8 pm; Dover, 4.2 pm; Liverpool, 3.4 pm; Avonmouth, 5.42 am, 12.40 pm (43.3ft); 9.53 pm, 13.40 pm (43.3ft); 10.17 pm (43.3ft); 11.21 am, 1.30 pm, 6.7m (21.8ft); 8.57 pm, 1.24 am, 7.5m (24.8ft); 8.57 pm, 1.18 am, 9.4m (30.8ft); 1.42 pm, 1.2 am (30.3ft).

19 candidates are: John Sever, (Lib), Kenneth Barber, (L), Anthony Reid-Herbert (Not Form), George Griffin, (Lab), George Jones, (Ind), Kim Gordon (Socialist), William George (Reform), Mr Raghub Ansan, (SWP), William George Books (Liberal), Public Safety, (Labour, General Election).

Mr Joffers said that a year ago Front marches attracted about 1,600 people. That at Wood Green on Saturday had about a thousand and the march at Lewisham only five hundred.

Mr Webster said there were about 1,500 people at Lewisham, and that, far from being on a violent march, demonstrators had been in a friendly mood. The march removed many banners under threat of arrest.

Several party officials thought the figures of the uncommitted made the forecast less reliable than they would have hoped.

The survey suggested that Labour would get 61 per cent of the vote, Conservatives 32 per cent, Liberals 3 per cent, National Front 2 per cent and the other six candidates 1 per cent between them.

RUC's increasing success in struggle against IRA

From Christopher Walker

The police in Northern Ireland are achieving unprecedented success in their continuing struggle against the Provisional IRA and other terrorist organizations.

Evidence of the effectiveness of elaborate new measures, including streamlined central intelligence systems, was contained in the annual report of the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, published yesterday. Recruiting is also shown to be at a record level.

The report is the first prepared by the former Scotland Yard commander, Mr Kenneth Barr, since he was replaced by government clerks, who are mainly responsible for recent improvements in the morale of the force, the 5,300 members of the RUC.

Confirming that the Provisional IRA are the main organization mainly responsible for the increase in the number of young people involved in terrorist-type crimes. The total of 121 per cent during 1976, from 78 per cent in the previous year to 708.

During the same period seizure of explosives from the Provisional IRA has doubled, and charges in relation to bomb incidents and explosives increased by 115 per cent. Altogether, 115 per cent of charges against terrorists, compared with 1,197 in 1975.

The report also disclosed successes, the 76-page report shows up the blacker side of Northern Ireland's continuing struggle for police casualties, deaths attributable to terrorist activity were up by 49 per cent over the year.

In 1976, 23 members of the RUC and RUC Reserve were killed. That, combined with the deaths of 127 civilians arising from the total of 1,215 separate attacks, made the year 1976 the most violent since the present crisis began.

A disturbing section of the report points to what is described as a "sharp increase" in the number of young people involved in terrorist-type crimes. The total of

Today

Pressure is high to the N of Scotland and low over S England, with an E airstream across most parts.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central S, SW England, overcast, becoming cloudy, becoming brighter with scattered heavy showers; wind E moderate to strong, backing to W, becoming light; max temp 21°C (70°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: England and Wales will have outbreaks of rain, becoming heavy and strong, but mainly dry, with mainly dry with light showers; normal temp, cooler in Wales.

Sea passages: S North Sea: Wind W to NW, becoming moderate; sea rough, becoming moderate.

Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind variable, light or moderate; sea light.

St George's Channel: Wind NE strong, decreasing moderate; sea rough, becoming moderate.

Irish Sea: Wind W, fresh or strong; sea moderate to rough.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

Area	C	P	F	S
London	23	23	23	23
Birmingham	23	23	23	23
Manchester	23	23	23	23
Cardiff	23	23	23	23
Edinburgh	23	23	23	23
Belfast	23	23	23	23
London	23	23	23	23
Birmingham	23	23	23	23
Manchester	23	23	23	23
Cardiff	23	23	23	23
Edinburgh	23	23	23	23
Belfast	23	23	23	23

At the resorts

24 hours to 6 pm, August 15

Resort	Sun	Mon	Max
East Coast	6.0	6.0	17.6
South Coast	6.0	6.0	17.6
West Coast	6.0	6.0	17.6
North Coast	6.0	6.0	17.6

Overseas selling prices

Country	Rate
Australia	1.20
Belgium	1.20
Canada	1.20
France	1.20
Germany	1.20
Italy	1.20
Japan	1.20
Netherlands	1.20
Spain	1.20
Switzerland	1.20
USA/Canada	1.20