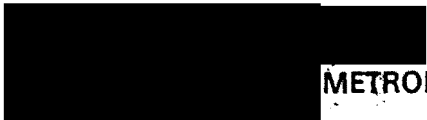


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METROPOLITAN POLICE

10/3
No. 143A

MEMORANDUM

19 78

From

To

1 May

Det. Ferguson

Det. Ch. Insp.

M.P.-77-93604/60M (4) GB26

- 1) With regard to the various demonstrations which took place over the weekend, it is apparent that DAC Helm (A Dept.) has voiced certain criticisms about the information which has been forthcoming from Special Branch, with particular reference to the numbers taking part in the ANL Rally on 30 April and left wing plans for the May Day March.
- 2) In relation to the ANL March, it was always made perfectly clear from our sources that a total in the region of 30,000 was anticipated, but that there was no indication that disorder was planned or envisaged. In the event considerably more than 30,000 took part in this Rally, but there can be no doubt that many thousands of these were Punk Rock fans, whose attendance could hardly have been forecasted by the SDS. There was no disorder.
- 3) In view of the large number of demonstrators who were present in London on 30 April 1978 for the ANL Rally, DAC Helm expressed fears that they would remain in London overnight with the express purpose of attacking the NF who were holding a march from Grosvenor Square to Hoxton on 1 May 1978. Constant contact with our sources indicated that the majority of those who had travelled from outside London for the ANL Rally would in fact be leaving on Sunday evening, and that although the Left were aware of the NF's plans for a march on May Day, there was no intention to oppose them. This information was passed to DAC Helm.

[Handwritten Signature]
 H. Ferguson
 Det. Ch. Insp.

*Seen & noted by DFC
 PA until the matter arises again*

SB 8578



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