

CIRCULATING COPY

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METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

8th day of September 1968

ROUTINE MEETING/POSTER-PARADE REPORT

Organisation: Joint Committee of Communists Ref: Mentioned on 400/57/175 (6a) 400/56/41 (10a)
Date, Duration, Place/Route: 7th day of September 1968 from 2.0 pm. 10.0 pm.
in the Reading Room, Regent Street Polytechnic, W.1.

Source of Information: Informant

Admission - Private/Public: Private

Police Arrangements: None

Subject: Conference on 'A democratic education to serve the people'

Chairman, Speakers, Officials (references; new pars. obtained; descriptions if necessary):

Chairman: Albert MANCHANDA RP.402/53/274

Speakers:

[Redacted] Privacy

[Redacted]

Privacy

Officials: Privacy References as above

Attendance: i) Number: 12

ii) Groups: None

iii) Collection: No

iv) Individuals Identified:

[Redacted] Privacy

[Redacted]

v) Vehicles: None

Incidents: None

Banners/Slogans: 'Victory to the N.L.F.' 'No One Min'

Literature: Attached three leaflets giving the programme for the meeting, explanation of the connections between Sussex University and various organisations, and the necessity for co-operation between students and workers.

Future Activities:

The National Conference of the Revolutionary Socialist Students Federation, to be held on 8/9.11.68 at the Roundhouse, Chalk Farm.

Remarks:

The chairman opened the meeting by paying tribute to the Chinese people over the success of the cultural revolution, and said that it had set a pattern for the rest of the world to follow now that capitalism was declining; students, in their struggles should study the class struggles of the rest of the world, and should remember that a political war had to accompany any class war that was being waged.

The first speaker, Privacy summarised the educational system in Britain, and said that under present conditions it was no more than a tool of capitalism. Universities, he continued, were meant to be apolitical, but this was not so because of the enormous grants they received from both the government and large business concerns. He concluded by making certain demands including student autonomy and the abolition of any form of streaming which, he said, were necessary before a true democratic educational system could be achieved.

The second speaker was Privacy of Sussex University who produced facts and figures to support the argument that his University was so dependant on business for its money that it was impossible for it to be truly democratic.

The last speaker Privacy of the Polytechnic supported Privacy arguments by producing a similar set of statistics for his own college.

There then followed a break, after which the meeting took the form of a discussion when various matters of ideology were raised, including a suggestion by MANOHLANDA that an attempt should be made to take over the Revolutionary Socialist Students Federation at its forthcoming National Conference to ensure that it followed a correct political line.

After another break the meeting was addressed by Privacy who spoke of the formation of the R.S.S.F, and emphasised the need for the present Trotskyist majority on the National Committee to be replaced by Marxist-Leninists. Some questions were then asked on this topic until the meeting was closed by the chairman at 10.0 pm.

None of the questions asked were of interest to Special Branch.

Officers Present:

D.C. MOSS

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(signature)

Barry Moss

Constable (rank)

Submitted

  
Chief Inspector

1. Send copy to

3. Supts. to see

2. Send memo to

4. To note

5. S.B.(R)