

**SPECIAL BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 1980**

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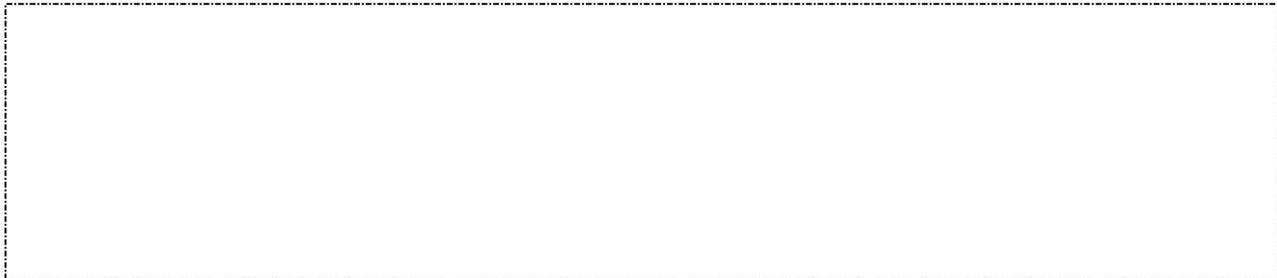
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The principal cause celebre of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) during the year was the dismissal of two of its members, Philip CORDELL and Richard CLEVERELEY, from their employment at the Brixton office of the Department of Employment. This led to several weeks' picketing of the premises and a number of demonstrations, one of which attracted 300 persons. The subsequent reinstatement of the men was seen by the SWP as a major victory.

The SWP's Right to Work Campaign concentrated its efforts on the Right to Work March, which was also viewed by the Party as an outstanding success and which culminated in a mass picket of the Conservative Party Conference at Brighton, an event which was well policed.

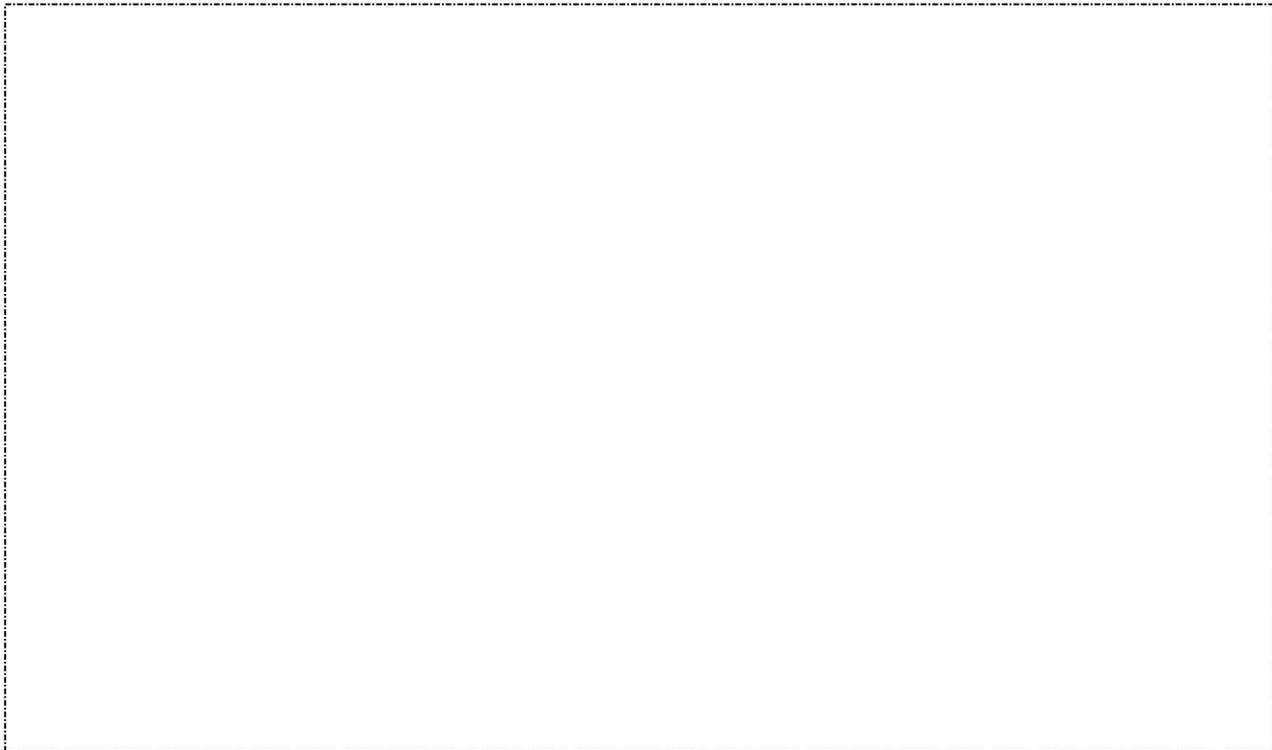
Apart from counter-demonstrating against two National Front marches, the SWP's most successful 'Front' organisation, the Anti-Nazi League, has been relatively inactive. The national membership figure of the SWP is currently 4,100.

The Worker's Revolutionary Party held a torchlight procession to the United States Embassy in protest against American policy towards Iran and throughout the year maintained its support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation and extreme arab regimes. Within the context of public order, the Party merited little attention.



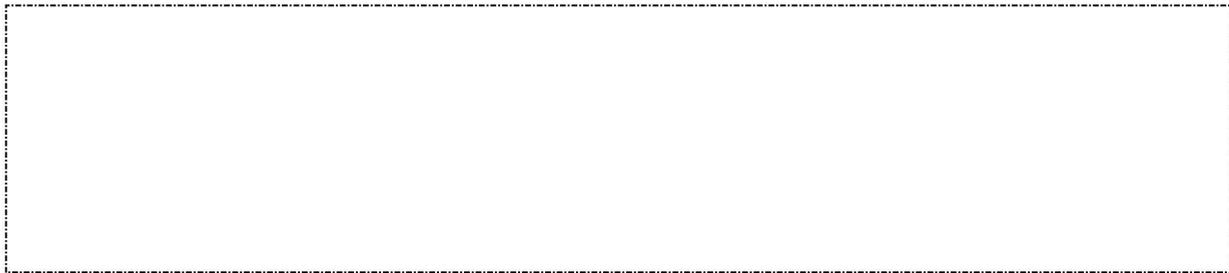
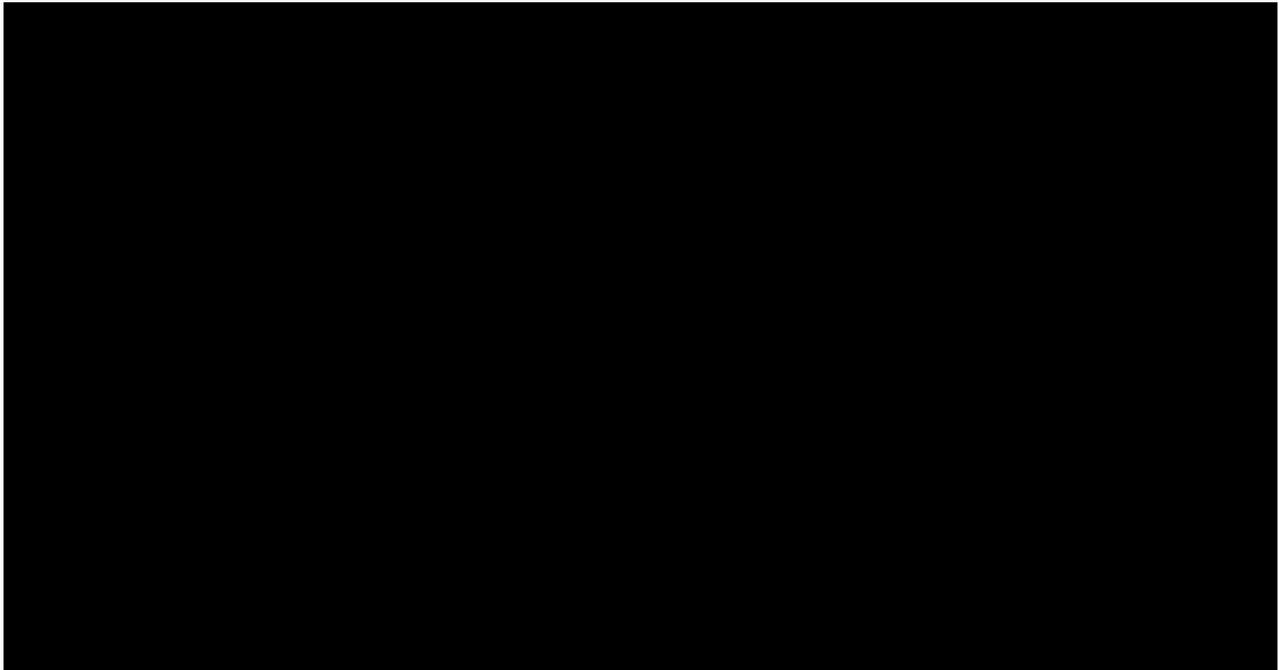
Troops Out Movement (TOM)

Troops Out Movement (TOM), formerly United Troops out Movement (UTOM), took on a new lease of life this year. A Steering Committee of seven was appointed to conduct its national affairs from a base in London under the direction of a full-time organiser. This committee included trotskyists from the International Marxist Group (IMG) and the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and two non-aligned members but no known Irish Republican activist. TOM, like the SWP front organisation Charter 80, campaigned on behalf of the Republican hunger strikers and for 'Troops Out of Ireland' but was not officially supported by Irish Republican extremists.





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FASCIST AND ANTI-FASCIST MATTERS

National Front March and Counter-Demonstration

12. On 2nd March, the National Front (NF) held a demonstration and rally in Peckham; left-wing organisations, including the Southwark Campaign Against Racism and Fascism (SCARF) and the Anti-Nazi League (ANL), attempted to stage a counter-demonstration.

13. The NF demonstration had been postponed from the previous week in an attempt to show that any confrontation between the Front and left-wing elements would have been engineered by the latter. The NF also co-operated with police to the extent of marching along a route and to a destination not anticipated by their opponents.

14. About 1,000 supporters of the NF marched from Wyndam Road, SE5 to Holly Grove, SE15, for a short rally. It was noticeable that about a third of their supporters appeared to have been recruited from the hooligan supporters of London football clubs who apparently had little idea of their political involvement. It was also clear that many traditional NF supporters from outside London were not present which reflected the recent split within the organisation, and the formation of the 'Constitutional Movement', whose supporters had also boycotted the event.

Counter Demonstration

15. It was estimated that a total of about 1,000 counter-demonstrators gathered in various locations near East Street market and the Elephant and Castle in an attempt to intercept the NF march, but the skilful deployment of over 5,000 uniformed police officers prevented any major confrontation. Only 16 arrests were made, these for minor offences stemming mostly from frustration.

16. In addition to SCARF and the ANL, the counter-demonstration included contingents from Lambeth Women Against Racism, the Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain (M-L), the Scrap Sus Campaign, the Jewish Socialist Group, the Labour Party Young Socialists, and the IMG.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

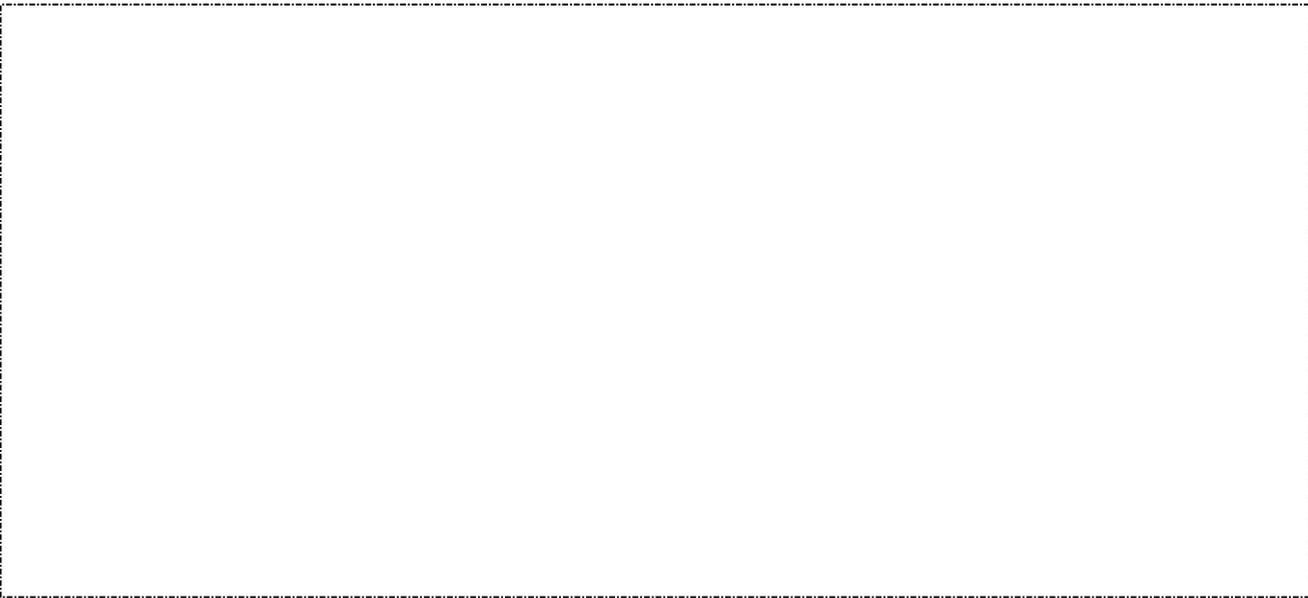
Demonstrations to commemorate the death of Blair PEACH

21. During the last week of April a number of events were organised by the Friends of Blair Peach Committee and the Anti-Nazi League (ANL) in order to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Blair PEACH and to draw attention to the resumption of the inquest into his death.

22. At noon on 23rd April ten ANL members paraded opposite New Scotland Yard with posters bearing the names and photographs of six police officers and the words "wanted for murder". They were all reported for possible criminal libel. Between 6pm and 8pm that day a total of about 670 people took part in peaceful demonstrations outside 18 police stations in London. The only incident occurred at Hammersmith where two pickets were arrested for obstruction.

23. On 27th April, about 3,000 marched from Hyde Park via New Scotland Yard, to a rally in Trafalgar Square. Although the event was supported by a wide range of left-wing and immigrant organisations, the total number was far below that anticipated by the organisers. Many carried posters naming the police officers alleged to have caused PEACH's death, and Paul HOLBOROW, secretary of the ANL, named the officers during the rally, calling them "the murderers".

24. The day's events passed off without serious disorder, the only incident being the arrest of seven youths after a group of 'skinheads' had shouted insults at the marchers.



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