

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

29th day of January 1979

SUBJECT

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

2. On Friday, 5 January 1979, between 7.30pm and 10.15pm at Conway Hall (Small Hall), Red Lion Square, WC1, the London District of the Revolutionary Communist League of Britain (RCLB) held the third and final public meeting in the current series on Chairman Mao Tse Tung's 'Theory of the Three Worlds'. The advertised topic for discussion was 'Three World Theory and the Strategy for Revolution in Britain' and approximately 45 persons attended.

Reference to Papers

3. The meeting was chaired by Elder Jonathan KING and addressed by Chris BURGOLD, the Chairman of the Central Committee of the RCLB, and Comrade 'Keith' of the Communist Workers' Movement (CWM). KING told of the struggle to rebuild the party of the working class in Britain and claimed that the 'Three World Theory' was fundamental to the understanding of international socialism. He reaffirmed the dangers of 'Soviet Social Imperialism', regarded by the RCLB as being the main threat to the stability of the World.

Revolutionary Communist League of Britain (R-L)

10/7/79

4. In contrast, the speech delivered by BURGOLD soon developed into a personal attack on rival figures in the Marxist-Leninist movement, notably Reg BIRCH (Communist Party of Britain - ML), Godfrey CRISER (Association of Communist Workers), Ivar KERRA (Finsbury Communist Association) and Albert MANCHANDA (Revolutionary Marxist-Leninist Communist League). BIRCH and CRISER were not present but it was observed that both KERRA and MANCHANDA were clearly surprised at the ferocity of the attack (in the past, although disagreements have been discussed publicly, they have enjoyed a certain immunity from criticism, perhaps in the mistaken belief that they, as well as CRISER and others, would be encouraged to affiliate to the RCLB). However, the 'hard line' had most certainly been set by BURGOLD; as far as he was concerned, it was not to be a bourgeois democratic meeting but a proletarian democratic one and he declared that he would choose the speakers. To make his point clear he posed the question, 'Who do these people represent?' and then remarked that, to his knowledge, the Association of Communist Workers had six members, the Finsbury Communist Association comprised one man, his wife and a typewriter, whilst there were more words in the title of MANCHANDA's organisation than members.

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- 5. These remarks were not challenged and had the desired effect of humiliating their victims. Later, however, the meeting was opened to contributions from the audience, it was left to the Spartacists - that evangelical style Trotskyist group - to attack the RCLB.
- 6. The balance was adequately redressed afterwards by the orchestrated contributions of the RCLB members and supporters.
- 7. The final address by Comrade 'Keith' was well researched but poorly presented and instantly forgettable. The meeting was then brought to a close with the announcement by KING that the RCLB would be holding another public meeting on Saturday 3 February 1979.
- 8. Attached to this report is a leaflet which was distributed during the evening and which was critical of the RCLB. It was produced by the Marxist Industrial Group, the Worker's Party of Scotland (M).

9. Persons identified as being present:-

- Elidir Jonathon KING - Privacy
- Chris SURFORD - IP. 402/70/166
- Comrade 'Keith' - Previously mentioned re CM
- Diana LANGFORD - IP. 404/69/250
- Albert MARCHANDA - IP. 401/53/276
- Ivor KIBRA - IP. 402/56/322

Privacy

Privacy

[REDACTED]

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Probably 1/w [REDACTED] Privacy

Privacy [REDACTED]

Probably 1/w [REDACTED] Privacy

Previously mentioned in [REDACTED]

Previously mentioned in [REDACTED]

Previously mentioned in [REDACTED]

Previously mentioned in [REDACTED]

Previously mentioned in [REDACTED]

10. Reg HIRSH and Godfrey CHURCH are the subjects of
RF. 102/41/141 [REDACTED] and RF. 102/74/731 [REDACTED]
respectively.

11. References to organizations:-

- Communist Party of Britain (GB) - 100/71/43
- Association of Communist Workers - 100/71/101
- Finsbury Communist Association - 100/65/85
- Revolutionary Marxist-Leninist
Communist League - 100/60/340
- Spartacists - 100/70/107
- Communist Workers Association - Mentions
- Marxist Industrial Group of
11 Barrett Avenue, NYC - No trace
- Workers Party of Scotland (WS) - 100/69/274

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