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S.B. No. (Plain)

METROPOLITAN POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH

Special Report

8 th day of July 19 77

SUBJECT

Proposed

National

Front march

Reference to Papers

400/77/106

1. On 8.7.77 I visited 90, Connaught Road, Teddington, the headquarters of the National Front, to enquire of Martin WEBSTER, their National Organiser, whether a newspaper article concerning a future National Front demonstration in August was correct.

2. WEBSTER ushered me into a side room where he spoke to me alone. At first he was very reluctant to discuss this forthcoming march. I asked him to explain his attitude as he had previously fully co-operated with me over public order issues.

3. WEBSTER referred to the previous Saturday's demonstration at New Cross and stated that if his members were arrested for breaking the law then their fines would be paid. However he strongly objected to them being arrested simply because they were members of the National Front. He said they would fight it all the way in court and were going to hold an internal meeting shortly regarding this matter. He accused me of pointing out National Front members to the uniformed police at the public house. I told him that I could not discuss arrests as the matter was now sub judice, but I emphasised to him that this allegation was in fact untrue and that I had only reached the public house after the first arrests had been made.

4. WEBSTER then confirmed that a march would take place at Deptford some time in August but refused to give me any more details.

5. There is little doubt that until the cases arising from the arrests at New Cross are dealt with the amount of co-operation police will receive from the National Front regarding their proposed activities will be negligible.



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Detective Inspector



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Detective Chief Superintendent