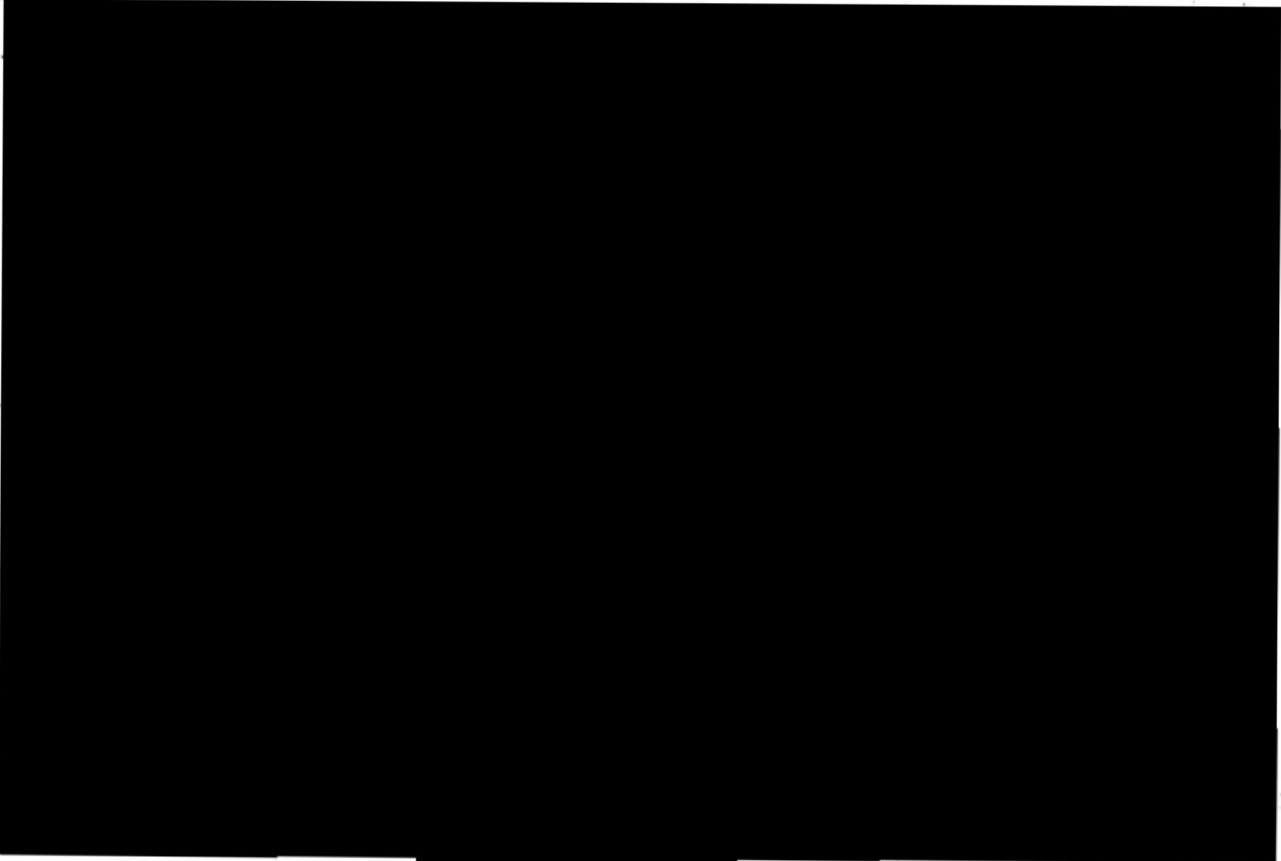
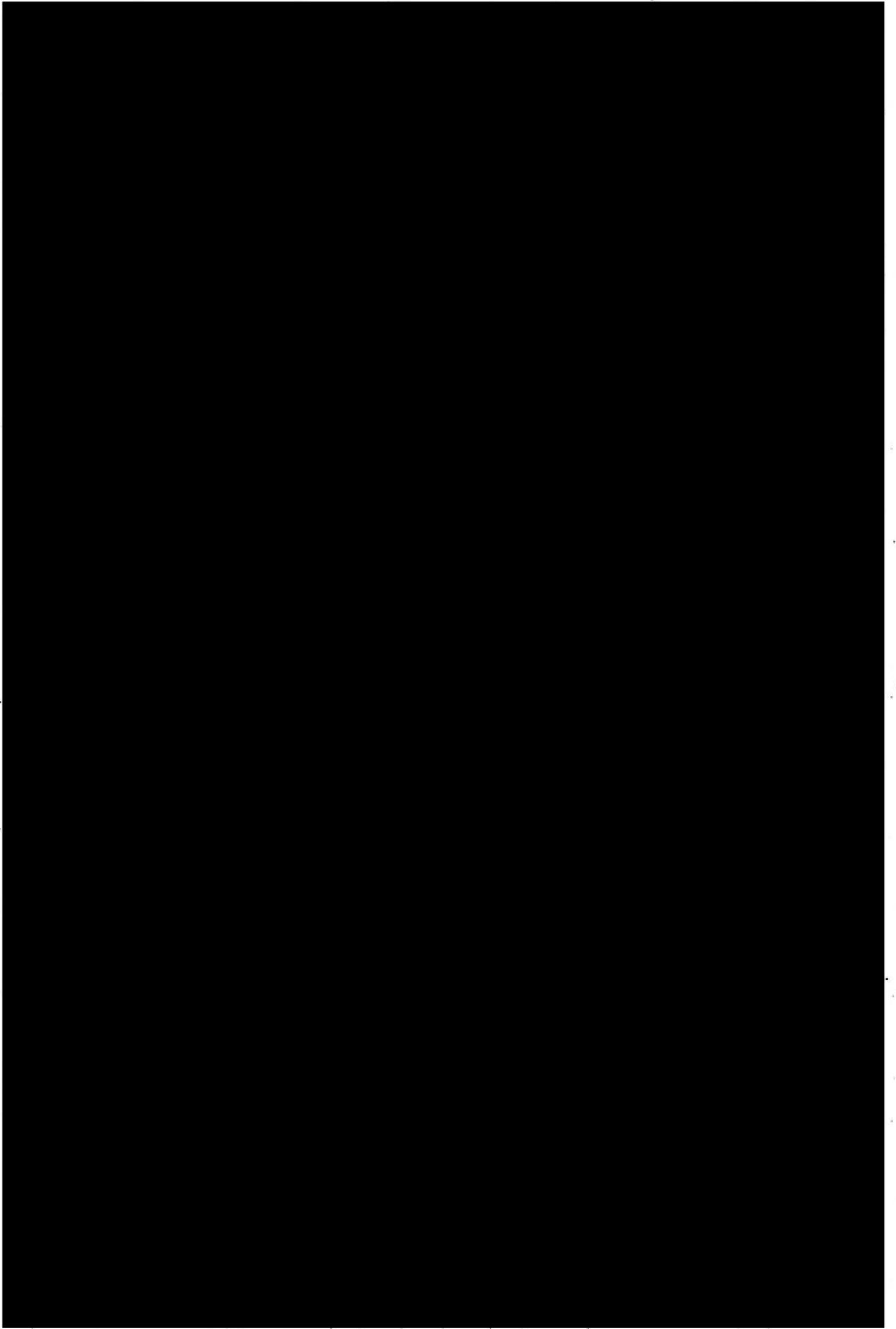
  
THE THREAT OF SUBVERSION TO THE UK: APRIL 1977SUMMARYINTRODUCTION

1. This paper updates the Security Service survey circulated in October 1976 (SPL(76)2), paying particular attention to the financing of subversive organisations and their overseas links. It concludes that no British Trotskyist organisations derive external support on a scale comparable with that which the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB) receives from the international Communist movement. That movement, whose activities the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) seeks to co-ordinate in pursuit of Soviet policy objectives, represents a significant threat to the UK.

COMMUNIST SUBVERSION  




The Activities of the CPGB

8. Despite the CPGB's declining membership and poor finances it still has considerable influence within the Labour movement. The CPGB continues to use this influence to promote "Labour-Communist unity", through which it hopes eventually to open the way to a Communist society in the UK.

9. The Labour Party Most of the candidates for whom the CPGB lobbied at the Labour Party's 1976 annual conference were elected to the Labour Party NEC. Publicity given to allegations of extreme Left-wing influences has however led the handful of Labour MPs with whom the CPGB maintains contact to be more circumspect.

10. The bans which prevent Communists gaining direct access to Labour Party bodies remain a major impediment to the CPGB, but Communists are sometimes able to influence the selection of delegates to Constituency Labour Parties (CLPs) and thus to bring indirect Communist pressure to bear on the Labour Party.

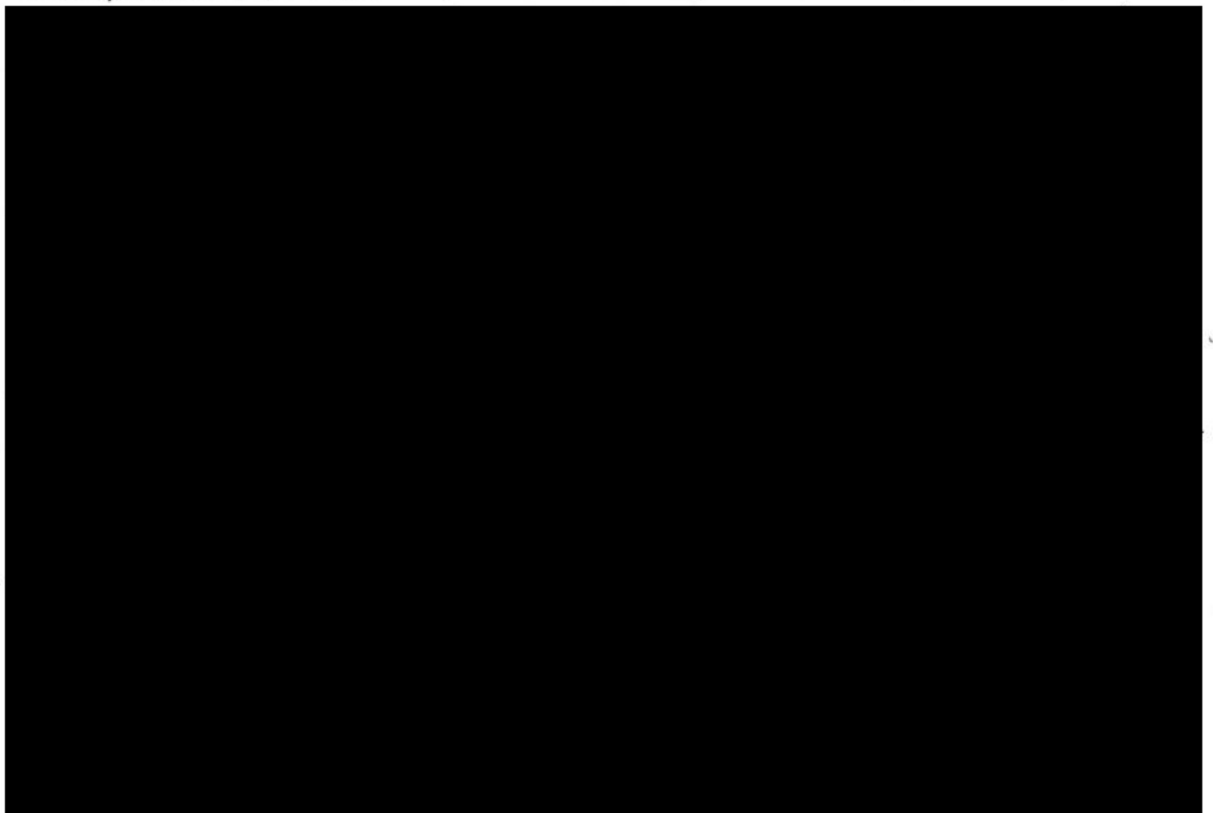
/ ...

[REDACTED]

such manoeuvres Communists have secured a significant  
degree of influence in over 40 CLPs. They support the  
proposed reforms in Labour Party procedure which would place  
greater power in the hands of CLPs.

The Trade Union Movement The CPGB continues to exploit  
its disproportionate influence in certain major trade unions.  
It has concentrated its efforts on discrediting the social  
contract and seeking to prevent its renewal in 1977.

#### TROTSKYIST SUBVERSION



Trotskyists, particularly members of the SWP, are an  
increasing irritant in the affairs of certain trade unions and  
some industrial disputes, but at national level they are not

/...

[REDACTED]



able to exercise an influence comparable with that of the CPGB.

14. Most major British Trotskyists groups are members of one or other international Trotskyist grouping but none regularly obtains significant financial aid from such a source. Since Trotskyist parties have nowhere come to power, no British Trotskyist group has an external source of ideological support comparable with that which the Soviet Bloc represents for the CPGB.

Large donations from individual members and sympathisers, notably in the world of entertainment, play a significant part in funding the WRP.

#### THE EXTREME RIGHT

15. Building its platform primarily on its racial policies, the National Front has grown in size and is attracting on average some 7% of the electorate. Fascist organisations are unable to match the National Front's appeal; membership of the largest, the British Movement, scarcely exceeds 500.

#### RACIAL ISSUES

16. There have been no major outbreaks of racial unrest since the summer of 1976 but Right-wing and Left-wing extremist groups continue their attempts to exploit racial tension. Neither the CPGB nor Ultra Left-wing groups have made much progress in attracting support among immigrants, while coloured

extremists are hampered by the barriers which exist between the different immigrant communities. Only the National Front derives substantial advantage from racial tension at present, but there are some signs of a further deterioration in race relations which may provide Left-wing extremists with greater opportunities for exploitation in the future.

#### THE PUBLIC SERVICE

17. A recent review has revealed that some 1,125 civil servants have significant security records; of these only 14 have access to information classified above Confidential. Threats of disruption may arise where subversives are concentrated in particular departments or locations, especially if they are able to exercise influence through trade union channels. A study in progress designed to quantify these has so far revealed that the activities of subversives in the CPSA and SCPS below national level may be a particular problem in two Government departments. Subversive organisations retain significant influences in both unions at national level.

#### EDUCATION

18. Progress has been made in defining the extent to which teachers in schools and higher educational establishments have affiliations with subversive groups. Efforts are also being made to identify establishments where teachers with subversive affiliations are concentrated. In higher education, the CPGB appears more successful than Trotskyist groups in attracting young lecturers. Isolated instances of concerted activity by teacher members of the WRP in a few schools have come to light.

Communists and their associates have retained control of the National Union of Students but their reputation among students has been dented.

THE MEDIA

POLITICAL TERRORISM

20. No British subversive groups are known to aid Irish Republican extremists in the commission of acts of terrorism, but the WRP has stepped up its propaganda support for the Provisional Republican Movement.
21. No violence-prone revolutionary group in the mould of the Angry Brigade is known to exist but some Anarchist and Maoist groups are continuing to recruit [REDACTED], possibly with the intention of putting their expertise to violence uses.



