

DEPUTY ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,

No. 3 DISTRICT,

Macnaghten House,

CITY ROAD POLICE STATION.

55, Judd Street,

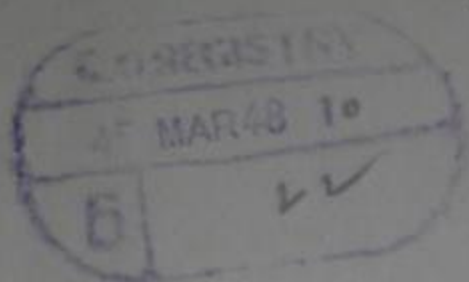
London, W.C.1.

3rd March, 1948.

Telephone:

~~4311~~

EUSTON 3766



MEMORANDUM.

A.C.'A'.

Meetings of the British League of Ex-Service Men and Women and Communist Party at Ridley Road, Dalston, and vicinity.

It is anticipated that on the evening of Sunday, 7th March, 1948, meetings of the above parties will be held at Ridley Road and John Campbell Road, Dalston. Experience has shown that Police must be available, in sufficient numbers, to deal with breaches of the peace and disorder which arise at these meetings.

I, therefore, ask that arrangements be made for Sunday, 7th March, 1948, as follows:-

Divn.	Supt.	Chief Insp.	FOOT			MOUNTED			Time of Parade
			Insp.	P.S.	P.C.	Insp.	P.S.	P.C.	
"G"	1	1	2	2	20				5-30 p.m. at Dalst Police Station.
"E"			1	2	15				
"K"			1	2	15				
No.3 Dist.							1	5	

Transport

To convey Police from their respective Divisions to the place of parade, to stand by during the operation and convey them on return to Division, I ask that transport be arranged centrally please by 'B' Department as follows:-

Bow Street Police Station 1 tender 5 p.m.

East Ham Police Station 1 tender 4-45 p.m.

Refreshments

I have arranged for refreshments to be available at Dalston Police Station.

A. Raepin
Deputy Commander J.

Metropolitan Police.

No. 728
(Thin Typing)

City Road STATION. "G" DIVISION.

Reference to papers

7th March, 1948, xx

G.O. Sec. 26, Para. 299.
Corres. 22/48/37.

Meetings - Resulting in Disorder and Arrests.

A.2. Branch,

On Sunday, 7th March, 1948, in the Dalston area, two meetings were held :-

1. The Commonwealth Party at Ridley Road.
2. The Union Movement at John Campbell Road.

The Commonwealth Party occupied the pitch at Ridley Road from 2.40 p.m., conducting a 'holding' meeting until 6 p.m., when the meeting proper commenced under the chairmanship of Mr. John Croisdale Banks, 31, Kyverdale Road, N.16, but this was very sparsely attended.

The Union Movement meeting commenced at 6.30 p.m. under the chairmanship of Mr. R. Hargraves and the following took the platform in the order shown :-

Mr. K. Barratt,
Mr. J.J. Spicer,
Mr. R. Hargraves,
Mr. A. Raven Thomson.

At the opening of the meeting there were very few people present and the slight rain caused the expansion of the audience to develop slower than usual. The majority stood alongside the walls of premises on each side of John Campbell Road as distinct from gathering around the speaker in the usual manner.

At 7.25 p.m. when Raven Thomson took the platform the rain had ceased and he invited the people to gather around him and they did so, the audience then numbered approx. 200 people. All had been exceedingly quiet and there had been no reason to anticipate disorder until about 7.30 p.m. when between 30 and 40 young Jews, who had obviously gathered somewhere in the vicinity, suddenly arrived in parties of 8 or 10 at the rear of the meeting. Gerald Jack JACOBS, age 20, a commercial traveller, of 9, Sydney Road, N.16, who was seen at the meeting prior to the arrival of the parties of Jews, was from his actions clearly there to guide operations. He was seen to direct the arriving Jews into the crowd. It was apparent that mischief was afoot and more police, from a tender holding reserves in the vicinity, were sent for but before they could be brought into position there was a sudden rush forward by the Jews, shouting, "Down with Fascism", "smash them up now". They attacked every person who offered the slightest resistance, surged forward and upset the platform. Police promptly intervened and 8 persons were arrested (see (v) below Nos. 1 to 8). Three of these persons were found to be in possession of offensive weapons - electric light bulbs, razor blades in holders, one large horseshoe and a piece of iron encased in rubber. Lying in the roadway at John Campbell Road was found a small neatly made leather covered flexible steel truncheon.

Supporters of the Union Movement re-erected the platform and Raven Thomson endeavoured to get the meeting going again, but would only have been an invitation to further disorder to have

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order.

to have/

permitted him to continue and he was therefore directed to close down at once. This would be at about 7.38 p.m. He readily complied with police instructions. Almost immediately after the above described disorder supporters of the Union Movement proceeded by various ways to Ridley Road and at 7.45 p.m. there was disorder at the meeting of the Commonwealth Party. This was occasioned by supporters of the Union Movement shouting, "We want free speech", "Break up this meeting as well as ours". The position was such that further breaches of the peace would have occurred if this meeting was not stopped at once, therefore Chief Inspector Watson told Mr. Banks to close his meeting immediately. He did so somewhat reluctantly saying, "Leave us alone we can stand up to these people". As police were dispersing this meeting there was some scuffling and exchange of insulting remarks between the opposing factions and at least one assault was committed. Two further arrests were made - see (v) below Nos 9 and 10.

There was some tendency for the parties involved and sightseers to loiter in Kingsland High Street. For some time it was necessary for Police to keep them on the move but no further disorder arose.

At about 8.10 p.m., Mr. Banks and Mr. Charles Ford, 48, Dalston Lane, E.8., came to Dalston Station with several of their supporters (Commonwealth Party) and in a boisterous manner demanded to know why their meeting had been closed. They were seen by me and told that the reasons were obvious, that these had been pointed out to them by Chief Inspector Watson at the scene, and it should have been clear to anybody that there were good grounds to anticipate further breaches of the peace had the meeting been permitted to continue. Banks was excited, truculent and argumentative and I had to warn him to leave the station because his presence was obstructing police business and he and his associates did so.

To Dalston Police Station with Banks came Gerald Jack JACOBS (mentioned above). He had rendered himself liable to arrest at John Campbell Road for he was undoubtedly one of the prime movers, if not the ringleader, of the Jews who started the trouble. I told Jacobs that I had seen him directing his associates, behaving in a threatening manner at John Campbell Road and told him that I should report him for a summons for 'using threatening behaviour' con. to Sec. 5, Public Order Act, 1936 and that furthermore consideration would be given to the institution of proceedings against him for conspiring with, and/or inciting others to commit offences against public order. He replied, "Yes, I admit I was there; I spoke to you. This is something new, a summons. Why don't you charge me now with the others".

No person was seriously injured. There was no damage to property and there was no really serious conflict between police and public.

Officers of Special Branch were present and took shorthand notes of the speeches. Nothing especially provocative was uttered from the Union Movement platform.

(ii) Police employed and the time of parade.

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Chief Inspector L. Watson
S.D. Inspector J. Inness
1 Insp. 2 P.Ss, 19 P.Cs | } "C" Division.
} Policing both meetings. |
| 2. | 1 Insp. 2 P.Ss, 15 P.Cs | "E" Division. Patrolling
in Kingsland High Street. |

Reserves

Foot.

3. 1 Insp. 2 P.Ss, 15 P.Cs "K" Division. In Tender.

Mounted.

4. 1 P.S. and 5 P.Cs

All paraded at Dalston Police Station at 5.30 p.m.

IN CHARGE superintendent C.F. Satterthwaite.

(iii) Employment of Reserves

From 7.35 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. - Items 3 and 4.

(iv) Whether truncheons were drawn or used.

Truncheons were not drawn or used.

(v) Number of arrests or charges

1. Isaac COHEN, age 22, tailor's presser,
28, Banvers Street, Stepney E.1.
Arrested by P.C. 441 "G" Eve.
Charged with 'threatening behaviour', Sec. 5, P.O. Act, 1936.
and (2) Assault on Police, Sec. 12, Prev. Crimes Act, 1871.
2. Ivan Alfred LEAHY, age 21, machinist,
208, Guinness Trust, Stamford Hill, N.16.
Arrested by Inspector Hemfry, "G" Division.
Charged with (1) 'threatening behaviour, Sec. 5 P.O. Act, 1936
(2) Possessing offensive weapons, sec. 4(1), P.O. Act, 1936.
(3) Assault on Police, Sec. 12, Prev. Crimes Act, 1871.
3. Arnold COOKLIN, age 17 1/12, tailor.
44, Wellington Avenue, Tottenham, N.15.
Arrested by P.S. 25 "G" Thomas.
Charged with (1) 'threatening behaviour, Sec. 5 P.O. Act, 1936
(2) Possessing offensive weapons, sec. 4(1) P.O. Act, 1936.
(3) Assault on Police, Sec. 12, Prev. Crimes Act, 1871.
4. Phillip KAT, age 18, pickle manufacturer
22, Leweston Road Place, Stoke Newington, N.16.
Arrested by P.C. 414 "G" Capp.
Charged with (1) 'threatening behaviour', sec. 5, P.O. Act, 1936
(2) Assault on Police, Sec. 12 Prev. Crimes Act, 1871.
5. Julius Hillel KOMOPINSKI, Polish citizen, R.C. 983812, age 18
a leather worker, 60, Kenninghall Road, E.5.
Arrested by S.D. Inspector J. Inness, "G" Division.
Charged with (1) 'threatening behaviour', sec. 5, P.O. Act, 1936
(2) Possessing offensive weapons, Sec. 4(1), P.O. Act, 1936.
6. Philip GREENBAUM, age 21, salesman.
54, Princelet Street, Stepney, E.1.
Arrested by S.D. Inspector James Inness, "G" Division.
Charged with 'threatening behaviour', sec. 5, P.O. Act, 1936.

7. Arthur THOMSEN, age 63, wardrobe dealer,
208, Canterbury Road, Leyton, E.10.
Arrested by P.C. 211 "G" Green.
Charged with 'threatening behaviour', Sec.5, P.O. Act, 1936.
8. Donald Bernard TRIMBLE, age 24, painter.
74, Glinda Road, Stamford Hill, N.16.
Arrested by Chief Inspector Leslie Watson, "G" Division.
Charged with 'obstructing police', Sec. 2, Prev. Crimes Act 1885
9. Monty SOLCHON, age 24, fishmonger.
30, Denver Road, Stoke Newington, N.16.
Arrested by P.C. 702 "K" Hyde.
Charged with (1) 'threatening behaviour', Sec. 5, P.O. Act, 1936
(2) Assault on private person, Con. Sec. 42 O.A.P. Act 1861.
10. Margaret HUTCHINGS, age 37, unemployed dress finisher.
13, Bilton House, Well street, Beckney, E.9.
Arrested by Chief Inspector L. Watson, "G" Division.
Charged with 'insulting words', Sec. 5, P.O. Act, 1936.

Subject

All have been bailed to appear at North London Magistrates Court at 10 a.m., Monday, 8th March, 1948.

Arrangements have been made for police to be represented by one of the Commissioner's Solicitors.

(vi) The number of injuries to :-

(a) Police officers

P.C. 809 "G" / 127393 William Smith (Islington Station)

Seen by Dr. Barlow, Divisional Surgeon, who certified as follows :- 'Bruised right brachial plexus. Not placed sick'.

(b) Members of the Public

Mr. Kenneth Barratt, 152, Hertford Road, Dalston, N.1.

Seen by Dr. Barlow, Divisional Surgeon, who certified as follows :- 'This man is suffering from a severe bruise on the right side of lower jaw. This is more serious than could be caused by a blow from a fist. Fit to proceed home.

Barratt was one of the speakers at the Union Movement meeting and was assaulted by solomons, No. 9 in (v) above.

(vii) The amount of damage to property

No damage to property.

(viii) The time police were engaged.

From 8.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Telegram to A.2. Branch, Special Branch, District Commander 3 and Press Bureau.

Copies of this report have been sent direct to Special Branch and District Commander 3.

Lawrence
Superintendent "G" Division

No. 110
184
No.
No.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT

4TH MAY SESSIONS 1946.

THE KING

v

GERALD JACK JACOBS
IVAN ALFRED LEARY
PHILIP GREENBAUM
ARNOLD COOKLYN
ISAAC COHEN
PHILIP KAT
and
JULIUS HILLELL KONOPINSKI

GERALD JACK JACOBS, IVAN ALFRED LEARY,
PHILIP GREENBAUM, ARNOLD COOKLYN,
ISAAC COHEN, PHILIP KAT and JULIUS
HILLELL KONOPINSKI are charged with
the following offences :-

1 STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

GERALD JACK JACOBS, IVAN ALFRED LEARY,
PHILIP GREENBAUM, ARNOLD COOKLYN,
ISAAC COHEN, PHILIP KAT and JULIUS
HILLELL KONOPINSKI on the 7th day of
March, 1946, in the County of London,
unlawfully assembled together with
intent to endanger the peace of Our
Sovereign Lord the King.

2 STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

ASSAULT ON PEACE OFFICER contrary to
Section 38 of the Offences Against the
Person Act, 1861.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

IVAN ALFRED LEARY on the 7th day of March, 1948, in the County of London, assaulted William Capp, a police constable, in the due execution of his duty.

3

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

ASSAULT ON PEACE OFFICER contrary to Section 38 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ISAAC COHEN on the 7th day of March, 1948, in the County of London, assaulted William Capp, a police constable, in the due execution of his duty.

4

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

ASSAULT ON PEACE OFFICER contrary to Section 38 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

PHILIP KAT on the 7th day of March, 1948, in the County of London, assaulted William Capp, a police constable, in the due execution of his duty.

5

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

ASSAULT ON PEACE OFFICER contrary to Section 38 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ARNOLD COOKLIN on the 7th day of March, 1948, in the County of London, assaulted Reginald Thomas, a police constable, in the due execution of his duty.

City Road

STATION.

"G"

DIVISION.

Reference to papers

9th March, 1948. 194

1.

A.2. Branch (thro' District Commander 3),

Charges arising from Disorder at Public Meetings.Union Movement and Commonwealth Party.Application for Legal Aid.

On Sunday, 7th March, 1948, at about 7.35 p.m. disorder arose at a meeting of the Union Movement held at John Campbell Road, Dalston, E.8. and eight arrests were made there.

This was followed by further disorder of a milder character at Ridley Road at 7.45 p.m. at a meeting of the Commonwealth Party. Two arrests were made here, making a total of ten arrests during the evening.

I will not proceed here to give details of the persons charged as all the necessary details are shown in a list submitted herewith which should prove useful during the presentation of the case for the prosecution.

I attach a copy of my report upon the disturbances submitted on the night of 7th March, 1948, which is a fairly clear narrative of events as they arose at both Union Movement and Commonwealth Party meetings. There is just one omission from this report which should be brought out here. I refer to a shout of "What about the Isle of Man" made only a moment or so before the outbreak of the disorder at John Campbell Road. This may have been a pre-arranged signal for the rush forward of the Jews in the audience who overturned the platform. The aforementioned shout was possibly intended to convey to one Gerald Jack JACOBS, referred to later in this report that all was ready in the front while he stimulated action in the rear with a shout of, "Now. Down with Fascism. Smash them up now."

The following is a brief summary of the evidence available against each of the respective defendants as per the statements of the officers concerned.

1. Ivan Alfred LEARY

Charged with three offences:-

- (i) Threatening behaviour.
- (ii) Possessing offensive weapons.
- (iii) Assault on Police.

In this case Inspector Remfry will say that at about 7.20 p.m. he saw a number of young Jews come from Kingsland High Street to the meeting in John Campbell Road. One of these young men - Isaac COHEN (see case No. 4) - spoke to G. J. Jacobs who appeared to direct COHEN and his several associates into the audience. Remfry informed me (Superintendent Satterthwaite) of what he had seen between Jacobs and Cohen and then watched the crowd from the rear.

The Inspector heard someone shout, "What about the Isle of Man" and almost immediately the assembly of young Jews, then

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order.

Jews, then/

numbering about 40, surged forward hitting out right and left.

Continuing, the Inspector will say that he saw Leary hit a man (unknown) on his right shoulder with a piece of rubber covered metal about a foot in length. This weapon, the Inspector says, broke on the Man's shoulder. The remaining piece was found in Leary's possession and will be produced.

Remfry endeavoured to arrest Leary but he ran away from the crowd, the Inspector following. He then saw Leary jump on the back of P.C. 414 "G" Capp. The P.C. shook Leary off but again he jumped on to the P.C.'s back. The Inspector arrested Leary who, when told what he was being arrested for said, "I didn't do it."

At Dalston Police Station, when being cautioned and charged, Leary said, "I didn't do it." In his possession was found the rubber covered piece of steel (mentioned above), a radio valve, and a razor blade in holder. All three of these articles are very definitely offensive weapons in the circumstances of the case.

P.S. 51 "G" Hall and P.C. 414 "G" Capp corroborate Inspector Remfry.

2. Philip GREENBAUM.

Charged with:-

(1) Threatening behaviour.

In this case S.D. Inspector Inness will say that he was on duty from the commencement of the meeting which at first was unusually quiet.

At about 7.20 p.m. in response to a request by Raven Thomson, a speaker, the crowd closed in having previously been widely separated on the sides of the road. At 7.25 p.m. Inness saw Inspector Remfry speak to Superintendent Satterthwaite and in consequence Inness paid particular attention to the crowd since there was then an indication that trouble might arise.

Inness saw about 30 young Jews come from the back of the audience and take up position in a block in the centre.

The S.D. Inspector noticed some whispering between the Jews and shuffling for places. He then heard the shout in reference to the Isle of Man. Then there was at first a shuffling forward of the Jewish section of the audience causing other persons in front to turn to see what was happening. Inness was about to make efforts to stay the forward movement when there was a loud shout of "Now" from the rear of the crowd and at once the young Jews rushed forward with flying fists.

Inness particularly noticed Greenbaum and KONOPINSKI (see case No. 6) and saw them both punch at men in their way, hitting several, in consequence of which two men fell to the ground. Inness seized Konopinski, and Greenbaum, endeavouring to push past the officer and his prisoner shouted, "Come on do them all up". He also was arrested by Inness.

Both were taken to Dalston Police Station and charged. Greenbaum replied, "Very well sir."

In the detail Inness has no corroboration but there is

there is/

ample support from other officers on the main features.

3. Arnold COOKLIN.

Charged with:-

- (i) Threatening behaviour.
- (ii) Possess offensive weapon.
- (iii) Assault on Police.

In this case P.S. 25 "G" Thomas will say that whilst on duty at the meeting he saw a number of young Jews, including Cooklin enter the crowd from the rear. He heard the shout, "What about the Isle of Man," and as the crowd surged forward a flashlight photograph was taken. The P.S. heard shouts of, "Down with Fascists", "Get at them" and saw Cooklin flinging his arms about and strike several people in front of him, forcing his way towards the platform. Thomas went to arrest Cooklin when the latter struck him a blow on the chest, using the right hand. On arrest Cooklin struggled violently and P.S. Dale assisted P.S. Thomas with the prisoner to Dalston Police Station. Charged, Cooklin said, "I deny all charges". In the prisoner's possession was found a large horseshoe, clearly a very offensive weapon.

P.S. 63 "G" Dale and P.C. 809 "G" Smith corroborate P.S. Thomas.

4. Isaac COHEN.

Charged with:-

- (i) Threatening behaviour.
- (ii) Assault on Police.

P.S. 441 "G" Eve will say that he was on duty at the meeting at John Campbell Road. It was orderly until a crowd of young Jews, amongst them Cohen, entered from the rear. Suddenly there was a surge towards the platform and Cohen, barging his way through, shouted, "Let's get in at them." Cohen was waving his arms and hitting anyone who attempted to stop him. The P.C. went to arrest Cohen, when the latter jumped on the back of P.C. 414 "G" Capp. It is strange that P.C. Capp should have been the victim of three assaults. Two of the persons charged are alleged to have jumped on P.C. Capp's back (Leary and Cohen) and he was also assaulted by KAT (case 5) who he arrested himself. However, strange as it may seem, this is the truth according to the officers.

After assaulting Capp, Cohen broke from the custody of P.C. Eve but was chased and re-arrested by Eve with the assistance of P.C. 669 "G" Tyzack. Cohen then said, "I did not mean to push him" (apparently meaning P.C. Capp).

At Dalston Police Station when charged Cohen said, "Yess. I deny doing those things."

P.C. Eve is fully corroborated by P.S. 51 "G" Hall.

5. Phillip KAT.

Charged with:-

- (i) Threatening behaviour.
- (ii) Assault on Police.

(This Typing)
 P.C. Capp will say that he saw the crowd, among whom was Kat and Cohen, surge forward towards the platform. They were flinging their arms about and hitting everybody near them whilst forcing themselves towards the platform. Capp heard Kat say, "Let's do the bastards." The P.C. went to arrest Kat when Cohen (case No. 4) got hold of Capp and forced him to the ground by jumping on the P.C.'s back. Eve came to Capp's assistance and arrested Cohen. As Capp was endeavouring to regain his feet Leary (case No. 1) also jumped on to his back. Capp says he shook Leary off but the latter again jumped on to his back. It was then that Inspector Remfry ran after Leary and effected his arrest. Capp then arrested Kat who said, "Don't push me or you will go down again." Kat thereupon pushed P.C. Capp on the chest with both hands. With the assistance of P.C. 337 "G" Battye, Capp conveyed the prisoner to Dalston Police Station. On being charged Kat said, "I deny all these charges."

P.C. Battye can depose as to the preliminaries at the meeting and also corroborate P.C. Capp being assaulted by Kat.

Inspector Remfry in dealing with Leary (Case No. 1) speaks of the assault by Leary upon P.C. Capp.

P.S. Hall corroborates Capp as regards the assault by Cohen (Case No. 4) upon Capp.

6. Julius Hillel KONOPINSKI, Polish citizen.

Charged with:-

- (i) Threatening behaviour.
- (ii) Possessing offensive weapons.

In this case S.D. Inspector Inness, who arrested both Greenbaum (Case No. 2) and Konopinski will give similar evidence as regards the threatening behaviour in respect of both persons charged.

In relation to the charge of possessing offensive weapons, against Konopinski, Inness will say that at Dalston Police Station when he searched Konopinski he found in the man's pockets an electric light bulb and a razor blade in a metal holder. On having his attention drawn to these articles Konopinski said, "I use the knife (referring to the razor blade in holder) at my work. I am a leather worker. I found the bulb, I thought it might come in useful."

Possibly Konopinski meant to convey that the electric light bulb might be useful for domestic or other legitimate purposes. Police know that such bulbs are especially dangerous weapons. We have had previous cases of them being thrown at meetings of this nature. Furthermore the light bulb in this case was of the 'screw-in' pattern, not at all in general use.

When charged Konopinski said, "I use the knife at work." The bulb I found at Kings Cross."

Mr. Inness is not corroborated as to detail in this case.

7. Arthur THE SADERN.

Charged with:-

- (i) Threatening behaviour.

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order

No. 729

In this case P.C. 211 "G" Green will depose as to the general conditions at the meeting, the surge forward and the taking of a flashlight photograph, etc. In the ensuing turmoil P.C. Green saw Treadern fighting with a young Jew. Green arrested Treadern who said, "Let me go I'm not the one you want." When charged Treadern said, "I was assaulted and tried to get hold of him (the Jewish assailant.)".

P.C. Green is corroborated by P.C. 642 "X" Cornwall.

It is doubtful whether the charge in this case is altogether appropriate as Treadern is 63 years of age and there may be something in what he said as to his defence against assault by one of the Jewish trouble makers.

Treadern has a very nasty C.R.O. file - No. 1480/04. Between 1900 and 1929 he has eleven convictions, including larceny, receiving, assault on police and wounding. In addition to the above, six summary convictions for assault on police etc., are recorded. However, it is now nearly 19 years since this man's last conviction.

We have to admit that Treadern came to Police with some information regarding the assembly of the Jewish men who caused the disorder at John Campbell Road. He spoke to Inspector Timmins of "K" Division whose statement is attached. Possibly Treadern may help the prosecution a little if he goes into the witness box in pursuance of his own defence but there are obvious reasons against calling him as a witness for us. Indeed he may prove a handicap in view of his record.

8. Donald Bernard TEMPLE.

Charged with:-

- (1) Obstructing Police.

This man obstructed Chief Inspector Watson by endeavouring to re-erect the platform of the Union Movement and re-hoist a flag.

He pleaded guilty at North London Court on 8-3-48 and was fined 40/-.

This case was disposed of forthwith because Temple said that he may lose his employment if required to attend Court again.

In the following two cases the persons concerned were arrested at Ridley Road in the proximity of the Commonwealth Party meeting.

9. Monty SOLOMONS.

Charged with:-

- (i) Threatening behaviour.
- (ii) Assaulting Kenneth Barrett (Common Assault, Sec. 42, Offences against the Person Act, 1861.)

In this case P.C. 702 "K" Hyde, the arresting officer will say, that he first saw Solomons at the meeting at John Campbell Road behaving in a similar manner to other Jewish persons arrested at John Campbell Road. Hyde saw Solomons throwing his arms about

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order

No. 729

arms about/

(Thin Typing)

and hitting out at anybody standing in his way. Hyde tried to arrest Solomons at John Campbell Road but was unable to do so.

At 7.45 p.m. the P.C. was at Ridley Road where disorder was occurring at the Commonwealth Party meeting. He saw Solomons having a heated conversation with Kenneth Barrett, of 152, Hertford Road, N.1. and heard Solomons shout, "You bloody swine" and at the same time hit Barrett a violent blow with the left fist on the right cheek. Barrett fell to the ground dazed and for a short time was unable to rise.

The P.C. took Solomons into custody. When charged at Dalston Police Station Solomons said, "What he said is lies. I admit I struck him."

The blow sustained by Barrett must have been severe for Dr. Barlow's certificate respecting Barrett reads as follows:-

"This man is suffering from a severe bruise on the right side of lower jaw. This is more serious than could be caused by a blow from a fist. Fit to proceed home."

Nothing in the nature of an offensive weapon was found upon Solomons and so it would seem that he 'packs a heavy punch' unless he disposed of something he held concealed when he struck the blow. (See statement of private witness JORDAN below).

Barrett will say that he is a member of the Union Movement and was present at their meeting at John Campbell Road. He was there from 6.30 p.m. and after the 'Union' meeting was broken up he went to Ridley Road to look for a friend. (This can hardly be accepted as the whole truth having regard to the general movement - from one meeting to another). He continues that while searching for his friend Solomons struck him.

P.C. (CID) Spendlove can speak as to a heated argument between Solomons and Barrett, and seeing the former strike the latter:

There are two private witnesses in this case:-

1. Kenneth Jordan, who will say that he saw Solomons strike Barrett. Jordan alleges that Solomons had something in his hand when the blow was struck.

2. Ronald Macdonald, who will say that he saw Solomons strike Barrett but this witness intimates that there was some provocation by Barrett.

As to the threatening behaviour by Solomons, this was mainly or wholly at John Campbell Road. I consider that this charge should be amended to read 'at John Campbell Road and Ridley Road.'

Barrett was the first speaker at the "Union Movement" meeting on this particular evening. He is of a most unseavoury type, the subject of C.R.O. file no. 13853/40, with the following convictions:-

1. At North London Court 1-12-47. Fined 40/- for "Insulting behaviour" under Sec 5, Public Order Act 1936, in connection with a similar meeting on 30-11-47.

2. At Birmingham Mag. Court 18-6-43, 2 mos. and 2 mos. H.L. consec. for indecent assault on two little girls.

10. Margaret Hutchings.

Charged with:-

- (i) Using insulting words.

In this case Chief Inspector Watson will say that this woman, at the time when disorder was imminent at Ridley Road in the proximity of the Commonwealth Party meeting, shouted, "Dirty Jew bastards. They smashed our meeting." Spoken to by the Chief Inspector, Hutchings ignored his request to be quiet and go away, repeated the insulting remark and was arrested.

When charged the woman said, "Yess, O.K." and after a pause said, "I don't use words like that."

Chief Inspector Watson is corroborated in this case by myself (Superintendent Satterthwaite).

That there was concerted effort on the part of the young Jews to create disorder at the Union Movement meeting there can be no doubt in view of the evidence available from all Police Officers.

From the replies made when the Jews were charged it would appear that they had also received instructions to register denials.

It is fairly certain that the '43 Group', a militant Jewish organisation, is behind all this but unfortunately I cannot produce any definite evidence of this.

Now I will deal with the case against Gerald Jack JACOBS, of 9, Sydner Road, Stoke Newington, N.16, age 20, who describes himself as an unemployed commercial traveller.

This man is the subject of C.R.O. Docket No. SF. 66425. He has one conviction at North London Magistrates Court, 20th October, 1947, for insulting behaviour at a public meeting at Ridley Road on 12th October, 1947. In that case during a disturbance at a 'British League' meeting, Jacobs threw a tomato at the speaker. He was fined £15.

Jacobs is frequently at these meetings and is well known to "G" Division officers. He is also well known to the Jewish people who form the opposition, amongst whom he generally appears to assert some authority.

On the evening of 7th March, 1948, he was obviously at the Union Movement meeting to direct operations by a body of men of his own religion determined to take militant action against the Union Movement. The finding of offensive weapons in the possession of three Jewish prisoners shows how serious this type of hooliganism has become.

The statement of Chief Inspectors Watson and Monk, Inspectors Remfry and Timmins and Superintendent Satterthwaite (myself) show that Jacobs placed himself so as to be readily seen by parties of his associates as they arrived on the scene. He held conversations with some and by nodding his head directed others to move into the audience.

It was he who started the rush forward by the shout "Now following the loud call of "What about the Isle of Man" by some

by some/

other individual.

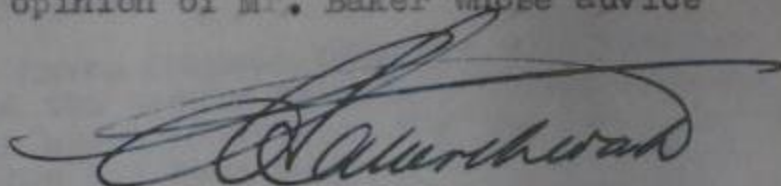
Inspector Remfry can identify Cohen as one of the men who spoke to Jacobs. Chief Inspector Watson and I can identify Greenbaum and Cooklin whilst Mr. Monk can also identify Cooklin as having spoken to Jacobs just prior to the disorder.

My testimony supported by that of the two Chief Inspectors and that of Inspector Timmins regarding Jacobs rush into the crowd and his wild shouting and charging among the people provides strong evidence of his threatening behaviour. I therefore ask authority to apply for a summons for, "Threatening behaviour", Section 5, Public Order Act, 1936, against Jacobs to be made returnable at North London Court on Monday next, 15th March, 1948, when the other cases come up on remand.

It is rather important to get Jacobs before the Court with the others, not only to assist in the continuity of the evidence but because I have suspected him on previous occasions of being the 'scout' in the public part of the Court, keeping witnesses informed as to what has been said in the box.

I ask that I may convey the papers direct to Mr. Baker, at his request, to discuss the case on the afternoon of Wednesday, 10th March, 1948.

Having regard to the gravity the situation has reached as instanced by Jewish behaviour on Sunday, 7th March, 1948, I ask that the fullest possible consideration be given as to whether Jacobs and three of his associates, namely Cohen, Greenbaum and Cooklin, should be proceeded against for something carrying a higher penalty than that provided by Section 5 of the Public Order Act, 1936. Conspiracy and or incitement to commit offences against public order suggest themselves to me as does also 'taking part in an unlawful assembly'. But such involved legal problems obviously call for the highly respected opinion of Mr. Baker whose advice will be much appreciated.



(sd) Superintendent "G" Division.

City Road

STATION.

"G"

DIVISION.

Reference to Papers

14th May, 1948

122x

Corres. 22/48/37.

Union Movement Meeting, John Campbell Road, 7.3.48.Result of proceedings against Four persons dealt withSummarily and Seven persons upon indictment.

A.2 Branch (thro' District Commander 3),

For the purpose of clarity in submitting the result of the cases arising from the Union Movement meeting at John Campbell Road, E. and the Common Wealth Party meeting at Ridley Road, E.S., on 7th March 1948, I propose to deal with them under the headings :-

- (a) Cases disposed of Summarily.
- (b) Cases dealt with on Indictment.
- (c) Cases adjourned Sine Die.

The presiding Magistrate during all summary proceedings was W. Blake Odgers Esq., K.C..

In the four cases enumerated (1) to (4) below, Mr. R.I. Graham of Solicitor's Department appeared for the Prosecution.

(a) Cases disposed of Summarily.

Under this heading fall the following four persons :-

(1) Donald Bernard TEMPLE.

This man pleaded 'Guilty' at North London Magistrates Court at the initial hearing on 8th March, 1948. He stated that further appearances at the Court would interfere with his employment and thus the Magistrate dealt with the case forthwith, fining Temple 40/- (Fine paid), on the charge of 'obstructing police'.

(2) Arthur TRESADERN.

This man was remanded until 15th March, 1948 at North London Magistrates Court. At the remand hearing, Tresadern pleaded 'Guilty' and was fined 40/- on the charge of 'threatening behaviour'.

(3) Monty SOLOMONS.

He was remanded until 15th March, 1948, pleaded 'Not Guilty' and was defended by Mr. Victor Durand of Counsel.

In his defence to the charge of 'threatening behaviour' at John Campbell Road, a complete denial was advanced and several witnesses deposed that Solomons had, a few minutes before his arrest, left his home and was on way to a dance at Piccadilly. Thus Police were alleged to have been mistaken as to the identity of the man guilty of threatening behaviour - a typical defence when Jewish persons are concerned. The charge of threatening behaviour against Solomons was dismissed S.J. Act. On the charge of assaulting Mr. K.

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order.

Mr. K./

(Unruled)

Barrett, Solomons was fined £3 and £2. 17. 0d costs. (Paid). This case was dealt with as a private prosecution brought by Mr. Barrett and not by Police.

(4) Margaret HUTCHINGS.

This woman pleaded 'Not Guilty' to the charge of 'insulting words' and was remanded until 18th March, 1948, at a special Court convened at Old Street. She was not represented. She was found guilty and Bound Over O.R. £5 for 2 years with a condition that she is not to attend Public Meetings. She was also ordered to pay 40/- costs (Paid).

(b) Cases dealt with on Indictment.

It will be remembered that on 10th March, 1948, Mr. Baker, Solicitor, placed the facts of certain of the cases, as conveyed in my reports of 7th March, 1948 and 9th March, 1948, before the Commissioner, who personally went into conference with Sir Theodore Matthew, Director of Public Prosecutions. In consequence of this Mr. H.A.K. Morgan, acting for the D. or P.P. drew up an information and on 15th March, 1948, at North London Magistrates Court, a summons was issued against Gerald Jack JACOBS, worded as follows :-

'Did at Dalston unlawfully conspire with Ivan A. Leary, Philip Greenbaum, Arnold Cooklin, Isaac Cohen, Philip Kat, Julien H. Konopinski and with others unknown to commit a breach of the Peace'. Con. to Common Law.

This summons was made returnable at Bow Street Magistrates Court on 25th March, 1948. Also, on Mr. Morgan's instructions a charge of conspiracy, framed in a similar manner to the summons against Jacobs, was preferred against Leary and the other 5 defendants named in the summons and all 6 were remanded, on bail, until 25th March, 1948 at Bow Street Magistrates Court.

At Bow Street on 25th March, 1948, Jacobs and his six co-defendants were all represented by separate Counsel. The case was again remanded until 14th April, 1948. After evidence of all witnesses for the prosecution had been taken several of the defendants' Counsel submitted that there was no case to go to a Jury. The Learned Magistrate rejected the points raised in the respective submissions and committed all seven defendants on the charge of conspiracy to stand their trial at Central Criminal Court.

The case appears in the Calendar for the Sessions commencing on 4th May, 1948 at Central Criminal Court and I attach hereto a copy of the indictments. From this it will be seen that all seven defendants were arraigned for 'Unlawful Assembly' - on 7th day of March, 1948, in the County of London, unlawfully assembled together with intent to endanger the Peace of Our Sovereign Lord The King.

Leary, Cohen and Kat were also indicted for assaulting Police Constable William Capp in the due execution of his duty - Con. to Sec. 38 of the Offences against the Person Act, 1861.

Cooklin was similarly indicted in respect of an assault on Police Sergeant Reginald Thomas.

A plea of 'Not Guilty' was entered by each of the defendants on all counts.

Mr. Anthony Hawke and Mr. R. E. Sexton prosecuted on behalf of the D. of P.P. and the defendants were represented as follows :-

Jacobs	-	Mr. Dudley Collard
Leary	-	Mr. C.G. Du-Cann
Greenbaum	-	Mr. Sebag Shaw
Cooklin	-	Mr. L. Halpern
Cohen	-	Sir John Maude, K.C.
Kat	-	Mr. A.P. Marshall, K.C.
Konopinski	-	Sir John Cameron.

Five of the defending Counsel were assisted by their Juniors.

The case came before the Learned Recorder, Sir Gerald Dodson on 10th May, 1948 and lasted for 4 days. All Police witnesses were subjected to rigorous cross examination by Counsel, but were not shaken to any material degree. Indeed Sir Theodore Matthew, who took a personal interest in the case, told me that he considered our officers had proved an excellent set of witnesses.

In all instances the defence was to the effect that the defendants found themselves at the scene of the meeting whilst following their innocent pursuits, mostly being about to attend Cinemas in the vicinity. It seemed that Police had proceeded against the wrong persons in every case.

Speeches by defending Counsel occupied several hours and the Learned Recorder in summing up was a little critical of this 'feast of oratory'. He also mentioned how strange it must seem, if the stories of the defence were to be believed, that Police had made so many mistakes on the evening in question. Further, the Recorder made some comment upon the evidence of extraordinary good character called for the majority of the defendants, saying that in some instances the defendants were so good that they must feel awkward in normal company and one of them would appear to wear a 'prefabricated halo'.

The Jury returned verdicts and the defendants were dealt with as follows :-

Name	Indictment	Verdict & Penalty	Indictment	Verdict & Penalty
Jacobs	Unlawful Assembly	Guilty Fined £20.		
Leary	-do-	Guilty Fined £7.	Assault Police	Guilty No sep. Penalty.
Greenbaum	-do-	Guilty Fined £5.		
Cooklin	-do-	Guilty Fined £5.	Assault Police	Not Guilty.
Cohen	-do-	Guilty Fined £7.	Assault Police	Guilty No sep. penalty.
Kat	-do-	Not Guilty Discharged	Assault Police	Not Guilty
Konopinski	-do-	Not Guilty Discharged		

Before passing sentence upon the five defendants convicted, or discharging Kat and Konopinski, the Learned Recorder, addressing the seven persons in the dock said,

"Kat and Konopinski are discharged but before they go I would like to say this. You see what this sort of thing leads to, a good deal of trouble for the Police. The Police are used to handling difficult situations and they handle them, as they did in this case, in a way which prevented things developing. You must realise that Police Officers are not your natural foes, they are your friends and provided you behave like reasonable people they will help you. The other thing I wish to say is this. Do not attempt to right what you think are wrongs or grievances by taking things into your own hands. The law will take care of that. You may not like fascists, whatever they may be, or their meetings, but leave the law to look after them. You need not worry about the fascists and if you do you must not take the law into your own hands. You are old enough to realise that those who resort to violence and disorder invariably come to grief over it.

This prosecution will no doubt have done some good as it has drawn your attention to the folly of this sort of thing. If you repeat this sort of conduct you will get into grave trouble and spoil your careers. You have brought this trouble upon yourselves. Take my advice and leave it alone, leave other people to put the world right.

That particularly applies to you, Jacobs, if you persist in this conduct you will come to serious harm. If you do this again you will go to prison. I have seriously considered this course in the case of some of you, but this is an unusual offence, it is many years since we had such a case before, but it is right and proper that the case should have come here and very possibly it will do a great deal of good because it may lead you and those like you to drop this sort of behaviour.

I am not going to send any of you to prison but you are old enough to know better and we expect better things of you.

Do not let this occur again because the law will have to take its course. If this happens again, and this applies particularly to you Jacobs, you will undoubtedly have to go to prison.

I want you to pay small fines as I know they will have to be paid in any case by your parents, which shows the sort of thing your conduct leads to. I hope that in future you will help the Police. If in this case there had been any serious assault on the Police I should have taken a different course. There was nothing of that sort and that is why I am taking this course".

The case was brought to a conclusion on Thursday, 10th May, 1948, at about 5.30 p.m.

Special Branch officers were present on all four days and took short hand notes of the whole proceedings.

In spite of the comparatively small penalties imposed I consider the case must be regarded as having been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. That the prosecution at a higher than normal level will have good effect, I have no doubt. One significant fact is that since the 7th March there has been no disorder at any of the usual meetings in the Dalston area, except on the 1st May when Mosley made his first appearance at an open air meeting. This was a special occasion, something quite different to the regular meetings in the area.

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Page 5.

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order

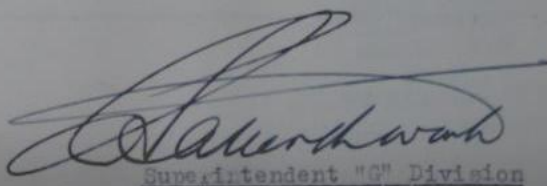
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(Unruled)

(c) Cases adjourned Sine Die.

A The counts against Leary, Cocklin and Konopinski for possessing offensive weapons, con. to Section 4 of the Public Order Act, 1936, stand adjourned sine die in the records at North London Magistrates Court. It would, I submit, not be good policy to have these counts re-instated and I recommend that they remain as they stand and no further action taken. I ask that the papers be passed to Solicitor for favour of his advice on this point.

May I be permitted to express sincere appreciation for the valuable assistance and the cordial co-operation afforded me at all levels throughout the preparation and conduct of this case.



Superintendent "G" Division

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