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Report #20
16 May '69 97

SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

From the 10 May 1969 Guardian - radical weekly:

"Want to learn how to start your own community (radical/ underground) newspaper? It's easier than you think. An excellent rundown of the whole process, with gobs of details, is provided by David RANSOM, an editor of the Peninsula Observer in Palo Alto, California. He discusses such mundane things as money, typesetting, sales, distribution, incorporation, etc."

The Cook County Sheriff's Office, Chicago, Illinois, has received intelligence data from a source whose reliability is unknown that black extremists are planning to have snipers shoot at police officers when they answer fictitious complaints. Law enforcement authorities are making every effort to prove or disprove the report.

fbi
in 57190
13 May '69

Los Angeles, California - Reportedly, leaders of the Black Panther Party intend to fortify their headquarters and have issued instructions that all Black Panthers should commit some act of violence against law enforcement in the event police attempt to enter the headquarters. It was also alleged that Aaron DIXON, Seattle leader of the Black Panther Party, claims he has received instructions from Bobby SEALE, chairman of the Black Panther Party, that shooting of policemen could go into effect now.

fbi
in 57348

The University Center for Rational Alternatives, first reported in the weekly Situation Report of February 28, this year, is again in the news and growing. Last February, CCNY Philosophy Professor, Sidney HOOK, the organization's mentor reported a membership of 400 professors and instructors representing 36 colleges and universities. These numbers have now grown to 1,100 members hailing from 175 campuses throughout the country.

Additional comments
on progress
New York

Basically, UCRA is a group of educators opposed to campus disorders. The UCRA is presently convening in New York and is addressing the problems of disruption and revolt. Professor HOOK believes that of particular importance is keeping the universities open no matter what. Because of this belief, HOOK has been highly critical of the recent act of closing CCNY by now resigned President Buell G. GALLAGHER. HOOK believes that shutting down the school is a "terrible defeat" for academic freedom. "When you yield to violence anywhere, you weaken the resistance to violence everywhere."

In the first issue of his organization's newsletter "Measure," dated 15 April, Professor HOOK noted in an editorial that UCRA has no specific program or panacea for the problems of any one troubled campus. UCRA is committed only to three fundamental propositions. First, in a free university, all questions are opened to inquiry, discussion, and debate. None can be settled by the exercise of violence or by threats of intimidation.

Second, any attempt to deprive the qualified scholar and teacher of freedom to determine what he should teach and to prescribe by threats of force or class disruption how he should teach is a violation of academic freedom.

Third, the faculty through its representatives, must be continuously involved in the consideration of new problems and challenges to the educational experience; it must keep open all lines of communication among the constituent groups of the university community and work continuously for the establishment of a rational consensus on all matters of common educational concern.

Five SDSers were arrested last weekend at Chicago. The circumstances leading to the arrest are thought-provoking, to say the least. SDS headquarters in Chicago, located in a rundown neighborhood, was given police, in an anonymous phone tip as the site of a shooting. Chicago firemen also arrived in response to what proved to be a false alarm. The trouble came when police and firemen would not accept Mike KLONSKY's statement at the doorway that there was neither a shooting nor a fire.

Of considerable significance was the posting of the bail established by the magistrate. The judge advised those arrested that he was bending over backwards in setting it so low. He stated "If I didn't think you had financial backing from some other sources, perhaps I would have been more lenient." Although the defendants told the judge that they were destitute, \$1,250, (one tenth of the total), the sum

required for release, was posted within an hour. Where the money came from (and so quickly) is a mystery.

Meanwhile, according to Bernadine DOHRN, national inter-organizational secretary, SDS plans to make things even more unpleasant for many universities and colleges before they close for the summer. SDS intends to disrupt graduation ceremonies. She said "our presence will be known at graduation ceremonies where the big people will come as speakers. It will be more than just a walkout."

As for the summer - SDS's plans to attempt to radicalize the workers have been previously noted. DOHRN said that SDS will also "work with kids in the neighborhood and fight the police invaders when we have to this summer."

Miss DOHRN added, "We will go around the country wherever the rich people go - like Rockefeller, Nixon, and Kennedy."

CALENDAR OF TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Asterisked items are either reported for the first time or contain additions or changes to previously reported activities.

May-June

Boston, Massachusetts, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - It had been reported that SDS members at Harvard and Boston Universities had met with members of the Iron Cross Motorcycle Club at Boston to learn to make Molotov cocktails and bombs. Some bombs and cocktails were made and SDS was supposed to be considering exploding them at historical sites in Boston and Philadelphia during May and June. This allegation seemed a bit fantastic but a similar plot had been hatched last year by colored militants and arrests made.

Explosives were seized in a raid on a West Philadelphia apartment on 9 April and have been linked to the plot to blow up historic Philadelphia monuments. Among the four persons arrested in the apartment was the Chairman of the SDS Labor Committee. Although a police informant had indicated that the explosives to be used in the plot were present in the raided apartment, no direct link to the alleged plot has been revealed and no bombings have been noted to date.

*Norfolk, Virginia - The Black Student Union, Norfolk State College, is discussing taking over the administration building at the college sometime before June 1. It has also discussed taking over a city building at Norfolk. Members feel that such action would add to their prestige.

*fbi
in 56552*

May 17

*Washington, D. C. - The Mid-Atlantic Committee on Ft. Detrick plans to picket at the White House on May 17, 1969, to protest chemical and biological warfare research. Articles prepared by the committee have been sent to foreign newspapers and the committee has reportedly sent a list of

Army contracts with the Smithsonian Institute to "Science" Magazine.

- May 17 Washington, D. C., New York City, and San Francisco - GI's United Against the War, a protest group which tries to influence servicemen, is planning demonstrations at Washington, D. C., New York City, and San Francisco to coincide with armed forces week. The group hopes to present a petition demanding freedom for servicemen presently confined for their anti-war activities.
- May 17 *Charleston, W. Virginia - Students from Marshall University, West Virginia University, Morris Harvey College, and West Virginia State College will stage a demonstration at the Armed Forces Day parade in Charleston by lying down in the street to block the parade. The demonstration is being organized by the following individuals: Harry Frederick SHAW, WVU student reportedly president of SDS and Southern Student Organizing Committee at WVU; William Curtis WEIMAR, a WVSC graduate reported as being active in peace activities; and Bill HOFFMAN, not further identified.
- May 17 *Colorado Springs, Colorado - SDS has announced plans for a "GI March" on 17 May to Fort Carson "To bring the anti-war movement to the members of the armed services." No further information is available.
- May 17 Denver, Colorado - During an anti-war rally by about 1,050 persons from a number of organizations on 26 April, plans were announced for another demonstration at Ft. Carson and all present were requested to participate. *Air 9134*
- May 17 Ft. Leonard Wood - A demonstration will be held at the Fort and reportedly prisoners in the stockade are planning a riot on that day. Three weapons are reported to have been smuggled into the stockade.
- May 18 *Washington, D. C. - GI's Against the War will sponsor a GI-Civilian Conference for Peace at Georgetown University. Reportedly, "Life" magazine will interview participants on May 16. *fbi*
- May 18 *Chicago, Illinois - The Malcolm X Memorial Committee has reportedly requested a permit for the use of Lincoln Park on *56552*

the above-mentioned dates. African dances and speeches by Committee personnel are scheduled. 300-700 persons are expected to attend.

May 18-19

*Washington, D. C. - These two days mark the end of a week-long Malcolm X birthday celebration. A group called the Malcolm X Memorial Committee, headed by the militant Jan BAILEY, which announced plans several weeks ago for honoring the slain ex-Black Muslim leader, declared Sunday and Monday as "city-wide holidays for our people," since D. C. is over 70 percent black. Monday is intended to be the "big" day of the week, with memorial ceremonies and cultural programs all over the city from noon until sundown.

*Daily News
14 May '69*

The Committee has made appeals to all the black businesses in the city to close for the afternoon on Monday and to reduce prices for all merchandise that morning "for the benefit of the impoverished black community." BAILEY said no pressure will be exerted on the merchants because "we want them to close out of respect, not fear."

The celebration will include a 2 p.m. rally on the 19th in Meridian Hill Park, which the Committee has asked the City Council to officially rename "Malcolm X Park." Other programs are intended at Lincoln Park, Federal City College, Howard University, the New Thing Cultural Center, and several other places. Numerous black organizations and cultural groups will participate in the Sunday and Monday activities.

A D. C. school board committee headed by Julius HOBSON, decided that the District schools should be asked to recognize Monday as Malcolm X's birthday and to hold assemblies honoring him on that day. Since the committee did not meet in time for the full board to consider their recommendation at a regular meeting before Monday, a copy of their proposal was sent to board members for their signature. If any board member refuses to sign, the motion will fail. (See last page.)

May 21

Muncie, Indiana - The Student Liberal Action Movement will demonstrate to protest the construction of a high school which it feels will mean prohibitive transportation costs to Negro families.

May 23-29

*Washington, D. C. - A Quaker Action Group, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is sponsoring a series of anti-war demonstrations at Washington, D. C., May 23 - 29. Vigils will be held at the White House, the Capitol, State Department, and the Pentagon on 23 May 1969. From 26-29 May, vigils will take place in the offices of Congressmen and Administration officials. During the vigils the names of Vietnam War dead will be read. The group has also announced that in the near future it will undertake a boat trip to Cuba to challenge the trade boycott against Cuba.

*air**9134**13 May 69*

May 25-30

*Chicago, Illinois - SDS is planning demonstrations against the Command Officers Conference at the University of Illinois. A leaflet issued by SDS reports that SDS intends to force the conference off the campus.

*fbi**in 54165*

May 26

Memphis, Tennessee - Motion by James Earl RAY for a new trial in the murder of Martin Luther KING, Jr., will be heard by Judge Arthur C. FAQUIN, Jr.

May 30

Ft. Sill, Oklahoma - SDS and the Committee to End the War in Vietnam plan to demonstrate at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, on Armed Forces Day to protest the wasted money in holding an Armed Forces Day.

June 5

Moscow, USSR - The conference of the world Communist parties is scheduled to open June 5. Another preparatory commission meeting has been set for May 23.

While the Soviet Union contends that the purpose of the Conference is to unify the movement rather than excommunicate any members, the general belief among Communist observers is that Moscow intends to use the Conference to widen the rift between Communist China and the bulk of the Communist movement.

June 6

*Twenty persons who have been charged with criminal contempt of court in connection with the demonstration and building takeover at Howard University earlier this month will be tried in U. S. District Court on June 6.

On the same date commencement exercises will be held on the Howard campus in the evening. Judge GERHARD A. GESELL

has issued another injunction restricting demonstrations forcing non-students off the campus and providing security at Howard during commencement exercises. Judge GESELL will order U.S. Marshals to enforce the court order if necessary. Says Judge GESELL, "this order is going to be carried out whether Howard University wants it carried out or not."

June 9-15

*On concluding their National Council Meeting in Austin, Texas, on 30 March SDS participants scheduled their next National Council meeting for June. (NFI available to date.) Apparently no radical changes in SDS policy came from the Austin meetings.

SDS has been rebuffed in several attempts to secure a midwest college as a site for the meeting. It may have to resort to other than college-owned facilities as it did in Texas in March.

ADDENDUM

May 19

*Washington, D.C. - A special meeting of the D.C. Board of Education was held the night of 15 May to consider the motion preferred by Julius Hobson's Committee relative to formal commemoration by the schools of Malcolm X's birthday.

*Wash Post
16 May '69*

By a 4 to 3 vote in a sometimes heated session, the Board voted against formal commemoration of Malcolm X's birthday but substituted instead a motion directing that Malcolm X be included in black history courses along with other leaders "of various political stripes and points of view."

This action is certain to result in much criticism of the Board by the extremists in the community.

SOURCE: Government and news media.

RELIABILITY: Probably true.