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SPECIAL INFORMATION REPORTSpring Demonstrations at Washington, D.C., from 24 April-5 May

The indications persist that coordination among the several major groups involved in antiwar planning at Washington during the spring period is extremely poor. As was indicated some weeks ago, Rennie Davis after expressing his displeasure at the joining of forces for a unified spring effort has continued to take his personal constituency, the Mayday Collective, along its own path. There reportedly is considerable hostility and distrust among leaders of the Socialist Workers Party-controlled National Coalition, the CPUSA-People's Coalition and the more radical Mayday Collective. Leaders of these various groups appear to be struggling to maintain their position in America's antiwar movement and are concerned with the protection of their organization's share of available funds. (1) 1A 5/4/75

There has been what appears to be a larger expenditure for this demonstration in published material than in any previous single antiwar demonstration. Publication costs must surely be soaring, and the source of required funds is unknown at this time. It can be predicted that distrust and antagonism within the inner circle of coalition planners will continue and may even manifest itself in a separate demonstration next Saturday by the People's Coalition. It is almost certain at this point that the National Coalition will have virtually no part in demonstrations which are scheduled to follow Saturday, the 24th. National Coalition planners believe that Rennie Davis has indeed gotten out of hand, is no longer responsive to the control of the People's Coalition and has no dedication to the conduct of nonviolent demonstrations. (1) 1A 5/4/75

Announced housing arrangements for demonstrators through this period have been exaggerated and are believed now to have only enough room for about 6,000. With or without a legal permit it is believed at this time that the Rennie Davis Mayday Collective will try to take and hold ground in Rock Creek Park. One planner, a Communist Party member from Wisconsin, has stated that if necessary hotels will be taken over in Washington to provide housing for the

demonstrators. Planners additionally call for demonstrators to solicit food from wholesale grocery outlets, suburban shopping centers and door-to-door canvassing in the Washington suburbs. Reportedly funds to sustain the demonstration that were expected from Senators McGovern and Hatfield have failed to materialize. Other planners (Sidney Peck and Bradford Lyttle) are reportedly highly critical of the manner in which Rennie Davis has been operating on his own, particularly in negotiating for the use of Rock Creek Park.

It has been reported that the probable reason Sidney Peck and others of the People's Coalition remain in contact with Jerry Gordon and other planners of the National Coalition is solely to protect the funds that the People's Coalition believes it is entitled to.

At a recent speech in Florida, John Froines, the former Oregon college professor who was acquitted in the now famous Chicago Conspiracy Trial, encouraged the use of bombing. There is some indication that bombing or at least bomb threats are planned during the period, but if either occurs they will not be the product of the major organizations involved in the demonstrations. The SWP and the CPUSA are both philosophically opposed to bombing at this time. Leaders would tend to believe that should bombing occur the impact of the planned demonstrations would be drastically reduced both through the loss of participants as well as prestigious vocal support by members of Congress and others.

It appears at present that the week of 26-30 April will not be a period of planned violent disruption. This week has apparently been earmarked for a period of lobbying at various Government levels including the CIA at Langley. Alexandria attorney Freedman has advised the Agency and the Fairfax County Police of a protest march scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, 28 April. Details of the protesters' plans have been requested but have not yet been received by Fairfax County authorities. As they are presently known, a march is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p. m. at the Society of Friends meetinghouse on Virginia Highway 193 approximately two miles west of Langley Gate 1. Attorney Freedman has stated that the march will number approximately 1,000 people and will present an antiwar petition (possibly a copy of the People's Peace Treaty) to an Agency official at the gate. This protest march reportedly will be nonobstructive and peaceful. It should be noted, however, that the march sponsorship is an organization centered in Springfield that goes by the name of the Northern Virginia

Mayday Collective. This name alone places the sponsoring organization in the Rennie Davis camp, and it must therefore be considered as a possible source of violence and disruption. The odds are, at this point, that this demonstration on the 28th of April will remain peaceful and nonviolent.

This demonstration was originally rumored to occur on the previous day, 27 April. The reason for the date change is unknown but might hold some significance. It is likely that the date was changed to the 28th because of other commitments made by Mayday demonstrators on the 27th and was postponed a day to enhance the possibility of greater participation. Without outside help the demonstration will not be able to produce as many as a thousand marchers. With outside help planners can probably reach or exceed the planned 1,000 persons. Additional details of this direct demonstration against the Agency will be passed to Agency officials immediately upon their receipt.

Other Government agencies that are scheduled for protest demonstrations during the last week of April are the Pentagon, the Justice Department, the Capitol Building, the White House, HEW and others. There are no indications in the literature that any of these demonstrations during the next week in April will be violent.

Q. B. G. S. MEDIA

From 1 May on, disruption and violence become highly potential. There has been no activity in recent days around any of the Virginia farm sites that have been previously mentioned as assembly points for Mayday demonstrators. It is believed, at this point, that Rennie Davis and his lieutenants will set up camp at Rock Creek Park, permit or not. One of the mentioned Virginia farm sites may well be used by the Mayday Collective as a retreat assembly point in the event the Davis group cannot hold the Rock Creek Park site. The most prominently mentioned Virginia property is in Loudoun County on Virginia Route 7. It is bordered on the west by Route 7, on the north by Goose Creek, on the east by the Potomac River and on the south by Ashburn Junction.

For the Police

The planning for May activities has been extensive and ingenious. Twenty-one targets for disruption of the city have been identified. Those targets are as follows: 1) Key Bridge, Virginia side, Rosslyn Plaza; 2) Key Bridge, D. C. side, M St., 34th St., 35th St.; 3) Theodore (sic) Roosevelt Bridge, Virginia side, Route 66; 4) Theodore Roosevelt (sic) Bridge, D. C. side, Rock Creek Parkway; 5) Arlington Memorial Bridge, Virginia side, Memorial Drive, Arlington Ridge Road (Rt. 110).

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6) Arlington Memorial Bridge, D.C. side, Rock Creek Parkway, Ohio Drive south; 7) Washington Blvd., Highway 110; 8) Traffic Loop just west of Pentagon, Washington Blvd., Columbia Pike, Shirley Hwy; 9) Shirley Hwy just south of the Pentagon; 10) Rochambeau Bridge, Virginia side, D.C. bound traffic on Routes 95 and 1; 11) George Mason Memorial Bridge, Virginia side, Virginia bound traffic on Routes 95 and 1; 12) 14th St. Bridge Complex, D.C. side; 13) Washington Circle, K St., Pennsylvania Ave., New Hampshire Ave.; 14) DuPont Circle, Massachusetts Ave., Connecticut Ave., New Hampshire Ave.; 15) Scott Circle, Massachusetts Ave., Rhode Island Ave., 16th St.; 16) Thomas Circle, Massachusetts Ave., Vermont Ave., 14th St.; 17) Mt. Vernon Square, Massachusetts Ave., New York Ave., K St.; 18) Commodore Intersection, Massachusetts Ave. and New York Ave.; 19) Stanton Park Square, Massachusetts Ave., Maryland Ave.; 20) Seward Square, Pennsylvania Ave., North Carolina Ave.; 21) Folger Park, North Carolina Ave., D St.

Protest leaders have additionally evaluated the possible counterforce that will be used against them and have tended to exaggerate the potential steps the Government is likely to take to suppress their demonstration. Included in some of their literature printed and distributed among prospective demonstrators are statements that the Government intends to utilize Chinook helicopters and jeep-mounted submachine guns. One of the most apparent ingenious methods of assuring at least a degree of success is the assigning of target areas to various semiautonomous subgroups within the overall Mayday Collective. The Key Bridge, for instance, is the target for Mayday Collective demonstrators from New York City and upstate New York. The 14th Street Bridge complex is to be obstructed by demonstrators from the Washington, D.C. area. DuPont Circle reportedly will be the domain of New York City and Florida demonstrators. Scott Circle has been assigned to contingents from Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas. And Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues are to be covered by demonstrators from Pennsylvania, Indiana and Wisconsin.

Reportedly, all other targets on the list have similarly been assigned to specific Mayday Collective units. This assignment tactic tends to minimize the ability of law enforcement agencies to close down a central headquarters and to be able to close out a serious threat of disruption throughout the city. The disruption of the "Mayday targets" is scheduled to begin on the morning of 3 May and continue on 4 May.

Specific agencies as targets of the Mayday Collective have not been closely identified and must be regarded as highly subject to spontaneous decisions. The probabilities are, at present, that following the disruptions on Monday, 3 May, demonstrators that have not been arrested or otherwise neutralized will assemble possibly on the Mall or at Rock Creek Park (which has been named Algonquin City) to assess the morning's success and/or failure. Although the Agency must be regarded as vulnerable on 3 May, a planned action is probably more likely on Tuesday, 4 May. It is still not believed that the Agency's outlying buildings will be identified as direct targets. Agency buildings in Rosslyn, however, must be regarded as in some spontaneous danger due to the close proximity of these buildings to a designated major target, i. e., Key Bridge.

As for the number of demonstrators that can be expected, the Metropolitan Police Department believes that Saturday, 24 April, will draw approximately 100,000 people. Reportedly, the Department of Justice expects a considerably lesser number. University populations around the country are reported to be much less action-oriented this year than last, but then, too, publicity and propagandizing for Saturday, 24 April, have been under way for ten months. No antiwar demonstration in recent history has been planned and scheduled for a like period of time. Balancing all available factors, therefore, it is believed that the demonstrations on the 24th will by far exceed the 100,000 predicted by Metropolitan Police. The bulk of the participants in town for the 24th are definitely oriented toward peaceful, nonviolent, legal demonstrations. If violence occurs on the 24th, it will probably be precipitated by small and unpredictable bands of hard-core radicals and irresponsible street people that will undoubtedly be present on the 24th.

There has been an indication that violence may occur at the Capitol Building on the 24th while speakers are addressing the gathering. A possibility exists that one or more small groups of radicals may attempt to take over the speakers' platform and physically abuse members of Congress. No confirmation of this tactic has been received, and it is mentioned only as a possibility. During large demonstrations that have taken place in Washington in the past, it has been concluded that if violence erupts it will probably occur late in the afternoon at about the time the bulk of demonstrators are making their plans to depart the city. After the 24th the numbers of activists remaining in the city will be drastically smaller but certainly more violence-prone.

Peak participation during the week of 26-30 April will probably not exceed 15,000 and will add in early May activities no more than 5,000 or 10,000 more. One factor that might build a larger assembly would be the staging of a marathon rock festival in order to hold the young people in the area. If such plans are being made, they are not presently known. The composition of the anticipated crowd in the city will be as in the past, largely young people and largely white people. Demonstrators have been advised to stay out of the Negro residential area of the city; and the mass of black citizens, as in the past, have demonstrated scant interest in antiwar demonstrations. Even the presence of Ralph Abernathy, if it occurs (and it is by no means certain that it will), will not encourage significant numbers of black persons.