

FROM: THE RT.HON. SIR KEITH JOSEPH, Bt, MP



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KJ/SMC

Rt.Hon. William Whitelaw MP.

24th February 1978

Andrew Sykes of Strathclyde University as you know already sent us comments, which I have passed on to you, about the lack of training for the policy in handling demonstrations.

I now quote a paragraph from a further letter from him:

"On Wednesday I saw a programme on the National Front rally in Hyde, Greater Manchester. These again brought out the problems of police preparedness. Bad deployment, four men to an arrest and so on. The point made by the programme was that we haven't the resources to let the Front cause trouble. The real point of course, which was not made, was that the trouble was caused by the Left. As a Trotskyist BBC reporter in Scotland put it to one of my lecturers, 'we must dominate the streets not the police, no one must march or speak without our permission'. This, and not the opposition to the front, is the name of the game. And 'no one' would include the Tories and moderate Labour if they get away with it."

I do not suggest, of course, that any reference should be made to the source of this information but it may, perhaps, be useful to us for background awareness.

I am copying to Margaret for information.

C.c.  
Rt.Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher MP - for info.