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23 June 1972

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SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

Press accounts reflect that many residents of Miami Beach, where the median age is 65, are having a paranoid reaction to the prospect of their sunny paradise being invaded by thousands of long-haired and possibly violent youths. Much of the opposition to the likely presence of protesters stems from a fear that Miami Beach 1972 may prove a repetition of Chicago 1968 when thousands of demonstrators clashed with police.

So as not to offend potential voters, the Democratic National Committee's professed chief thrust is toward making certain that all the non-delegates who come to Miami to be heard get that chance. To accommodate those expected to attend the Convention which opens July 10, the committee reportedly has lined up 20,000 hotel rooms.

The big question remaining is what kinds of services will be provided for a crowd of protesters variously estimated between 10,000 and 100,000 strong. Many are expected to arrive without the money for housing or even food. There is a widespread belief that the moving of the Republican Convention to Miami Beach from San Diego will greatly increase the youth contingent. The committee would like to set aside a high school athletic field and a few golf courses; however, the city council has rejected this proposal. Local sources stated that Dade County officials will provide campsites for protesters but will postpone an announcement hoping the delay will keep some protesters away.

The Democrats are setting up a beach front Youth Center in an auditorium to give the youth a vocal gathering place. They will have booths for legal and medical aid and also information on the candidates. A special feature of the center will be an "ombudsman" operation to aid anyone who feels he is being "hassled" either by the politicians or the police. There also will be rock concerts, political workshops and other activities to interest the non-delegates.

The YMCA has announced sponsorship for 100 professional counselors to function as third parties in street disputes in an effort to keep arrests at a minimum. The county has announced it will run around-the-clock courts to provide speedy justice during both conventions.

Meanwhile, as the politicians and protesters squabble over where the campsite should be, Police Chief Rocky Pomerance, using part of a \$395,000 Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration Grant, is readying his forces to handle the crowds. Police officers are taking special training courses at Florida International University. Courses include police tactics and crowd control, but the real emphasis is on such non-police topics as the history and philosophy of dissent, the reasons for the Bill of Rights, the First Amendment and constitutional law.

The city council has passed an ordinance banning demonstrations without a permit. An area will be set aside in front of the Convention Hall for the demonstrators.

Reportedly, the wildest threat against the public order, a nude march by 100,000 Yippies in front of the Convention Hall, was immediately disclaimed by leaders of the Youth International Party. The Yippies who four years ago campaigned for Pigasus the Pig for president, have now gone moderately respectable. Twenty-one year old Miami University dropout Jerry Gorde along with Jerry Rubin, Stu Albert, Abbie Hoffman and other seasoned Yippie leaders are planning a counterconvention for the Yippies. Gorde has stated that the Yippie encampment will be a showcase of youth culture, music, art and poetry. This giant gathering of young people during the Democratic and Republican Conventions will be called the "Celebration of Change--Ten Days to End the World." Protest marches will be held from the Yippie campgrounds to the Convention Hall to protest the war. The theme of the "Celebration of Change" will be change in all areas of life by any means necessary. Major rock groups have agreed to appear as well as "superstars," yogi and juggling acts. No rock festivals are as yet planned for this summer elsewhere so Miami Beach could attract many young people.

Among the other groups planning to come to the convention are homosexuals of Gay Liberation who want a campsite on the 21st street beach so they will be close to the social and community gay



life in Miami. They have also asked that only gay doctors be assigned to care for them.

The National Welfare Rights Organization has booked 1200 Miami Beach hotel rooms for its own meeting a week before the Democratic Convention. The NWRO is planning a rally for July 10, the opening day of the convention.

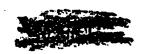
The Southern Christian Leadership Conference is contemplating another Resurrection City but reportedly has not completed its plans nor picked a site.

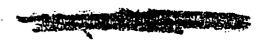
The "Zippies" who claim the Youth International Party label reportedly have rented a house in Miami's Coconut Grove area far from convention activities. They plan a smoke-in as their lobbying effort to logalize marijuana. Rather than the pig again, the "Zippies" will campaign for a rock for president (the rock is expected to carry a lot of weight with the silent majority!).

Recently the Congressional Black Caucus has invited black delegates to a meeting to formulate strategy to influence the Democratic Convention. The meeting has been set for July 9, the day before the official opening of the convention in Miami Beach. The Congressional Black Caucus will present a set of recommendations called a Black Bill of Rights for incorporation into the party's platform.

The Congressional Black Caucus would like to see a coalition formed by the black delegates, the caucus, and members of the Black National Convention. Both sets of proposals urged a host of reforms and programs which include economic aid to blacks at home and in Africa. There will be three different classes of black representation at the convention—those tied to organized labor, to the Congressional Black Caucus, and the Black Political Convention.

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CALENDAR OF TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

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

*19 June -- 7 July, Washington, D.C.

Citizens Concerned for Peace, a Washington, D.C. pacifist group, intends to hold a continuous antiwar sit-in demonstration on the east steps of the U.S. Capitol Building during the above time period. Approximately 50 persons are expected to participate each day.

#24 June, Detroit, Michigan

The Michigan Gay Consederation, a working alliance of Michigan homosexual organizations, has announced it will sponsor a "Gay Pride March" followed by a 3 p.m. rally at Kennedy Square in Detroit on the above date. The size of the action is unknown at this time.

*29 June, New York City

Recently a jury acquitted Angela Davis of charges of murder, kidnaping, and conspiracy stemming from the shootout at the Marin County Courthouse in August 70. Miss Davis had planned a nation-wide tour to thank her supporters, but her doctor has ordered her to cut the tour to the following cities: Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit, and New York. The tour is to wind up with a show entitled "Evening for Angela Davis" in Madison Square Garden on the above date.

The Angela Davis Legal Defense Fund will use the proceeds to pay bills incurred during Davis's defense. The evening will be a victory celebration now that she is free. An all-star cast of singers, actors, and comedians will perform at the benefit. Among them are Ossie Davis, Carmen McRae, Clift on Davis, Jimmy Witherspoon, Chita Rivera, the Voices of East Harlem and others. After the tour Miss Davis will leave for a six week vacation in either the Soviet Union or Bulgaria. She will return in mid-September to begin building a national defense organization for victims of oppression.

*1, 2 July, Chicago, Illinois

The Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) will hold a leadership meeting in Chicago on the above dates to plan their tactics for the upcoming political conventions.

#1-8 July, Lake Granby, Colorado

The Universal Life Church (ULC), a religious coalition whose members are free to express any religious beliefs they want, is planning a "Gathering of Peace" demonstration during the first week of July in the community of Lake Granby, Colorado.

ULC is a loosely knit organization of approximately 600 churches around the United States and various foreign countries.

The size of the gathering is unknown at this time.

*4 July, Washington, D. C.

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, the national director of People United to Save Humanity and a former Chicago director for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, has announced "a mass march of jobless" demonstration for Washington, D.C., on the 4th of July.

This will be Jackson's first significant national demonstration, since he broke with the SCLC earlier this year over Operation Breadbasket, an economic program in Chicago.

Jackson became prominent for his leadership role at "Resurrection City," the tent encampment SCLC built on the Mall in front
of the Lincoln Memorial in conjunction with the poor peoples campaign
4 years ago. He then moved to Chicago from his native state of
South Carolina to organize SCLC's Operation Breadbasket, which
used boycotts and other economic pressures to help blacks.

Jackson has said, "you've got to demonstrate power to deal with unemployment problems." He estimates as many as 400,000 to 500,000 unemployed persons will march on Washington, to protest the high percentage of widespread black unemployment. The march has been poorly publicized and not more than several thousand participants are expected.

The Congressional Black Caucus (13 members of the U.S. House of Representatives) has endorsed the demonstration and the SCLC favors it despite a feud presently existing between Jackson and Ralph Abernathy.

*10 July, Oakland, California

A trial of Black Panther leader Huey Newton and his

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bodyguard Robert Bay will begin in Department #11, Oakland Municipal Court on the above date.

Misdemeanor charges against the two Panthers stem from the beating of a n Oakland disk jockey who was reportedly dating Newton's girlfriend.

*21-23 July, Los Angeles

Recently the steering committee of the National Peace Action Coalition (a Trotskyite group) announced an antiwar national conference will be held at the University of California at Los Angeles on the above dates.

At the conference plans will be discussed for antiwar demonstrations in major cities from 5-13 August to commemorate the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Hiroshima and Nagasaki demonstrations in recent years have been poorly attended, ineffective and peaceful.

SOURCE: Government and News Media

RELIABILITY: Probably True

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