

## **NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AFTER THE COLD WAR:**

**Part 1:** Archives of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, 1989-1994

**Part 2:** Archives of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, 1994-2000

### *Publisher's Note*

The issue of nuclear disarmament did not die away with the end of the Cold War. Far from it. Huge stockpiles of nuclear weapons were left in the hands of increasingly unstable countries. Prospective members of the 'nuclear club' grew unabated, and those with nuclear weapons continued to test and refine their systems – with apparent disregard for the damage that such tests might inflict, or the opinions of those living close to the test areas.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament has always been one of the most outspoken critics of those wielding nuclear power – both as weapons and as energy resources. Their marches, protests, publications and political lobbying have made a difference to the climate of opinion – but they will not rest until they achieve their aim of worldwide nuclear disarmament.

The earlier records of CND have already been microfilmed and we are delighted to be able to continue this venture by offering the complete CND archive from 1989-2000. These document the first ten years after the end of the Cold War, a period that began with much rejoicing as the Berlin Wall fell. Countries such as the former Czechoslovakia and Poland gained independence, and nuclear weapons destruction treaties were signed by America and Russia.

However, a new sense of realism soon set in, as CND and others understood that their task was not over – it has just become more urgent and more complicated – with issues such as Trident nuclear submarine warheads, the threat of the militarization of space, and the availability of plutonium and its worldwide transportation.

Part 1 of this project brought together full runs of the National Council and National Executive Committees on CND: papers of its sub-committees, and Annual Conference Programmes and Papers. It included all of their periodicals and printed sources such as: *Sanity*, 1989-1991 (at which point it was replaced by) *Campaign*, 1991-1994 and *CND Today*, 1991-1994; *CND Information/Defence Briefings*, 1989-1995; and *CND Press Releases*, 1990-1994. The Archives also include valuable local and regional material.

Part 2 continues the CND archive with coverage of the period 1994-2000, charting the progress of the movement during the next five year period. Some archives for 1994 were not available for inclusion in Part 1, and these have now been included in Part 2. This new publication continues with full coverage of the National Council and National Executive Committees of CND, and Campaigns Group reports for Strategy and Forward Planning, and Events.

Specialist Sections include valuable material for Christian CND, Youth CND, Ex-Services CND and Parliamentary CND. Publications include Annual Conference Reports, Press Releases and the official CND journals, *Campaign* and *CND Today*.

In Scotland and Wales the campaign is recorded in Nuclear Free Scotland and Heddwrch Action News, CND Cymru. While at local level journals and local group newsletters reflect the views of the ordinary CND member in issues such as '*The Croyden Peace News*', and '*Early Warning*' from Greater Manchester & District.

As such this project enables a detailed analysis of the activities of CND from the top-down and from the bottom-up. The interest of CND in International issues is balanced with accounts of their activities at national and local levels.

Archives of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is an essential source for all those libraries collecting in the area of Peace Studies. It will be of value to those working in the area of Modern Politics, Pressure Group tactics and Popular Opinion, and cannot be ignored by anyone concerned with issues arising from nuclear power and nuclear weapons in the period 1989-2000.

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### *Archives Introduction by Bruce Kent*

This extensive collection of documents may come as a surprise to those who thought that CND came to an end with the collapse of the Soviet Union in the late 1980s. Certainly CND faded from media view as the immediate sense of nuclear crisis diminished. CND's national membership within a few years dropped to perhaps a quarter of its one-time 100,000 plus total. Moreover CND was no longer politically popular. 'New' Labour was embarrassed by its previous CND connections which it judged to be a political liability. It fought the 1992 election on a platform which included the retention of British nuclear weapons.

CND - British, Welsh, Scottish, and all the various regional and specialist offshoots - did not in fact disappear. Indeed, as we now face a new millennium, CND is showing a remarkable power of recovery and renewal.

Thanks to the diligent and painstaking work of Dr Sheila Jones, the CND archivist, and of Adam Matthew Publications, we now have this excellent seventeen-reel collection of CND archives covering the years 1989-2000. Their range is very wide. National Council minutes, annual conference reports, Scottish and Welsh documentation, and regional and local group newsletters, all give a vivid picture of the atmosphere of the time.

The 1990s were not a quiet decade. They started with the first Gulf War and were dominated by numerous civil wars and the bombardment of a broken Yugoslavia. Already CND was well into the world of one superpower whose military expenditure equalled that of the rest of the world put together. Pax Americana, nuclear underpinned, was the new reality of the last decade of the twentieth century and will be for the foreseeable future.

1995 was a year of significant anniversaries - particularly for the peace movement. 1995 marked fifty years since the end of the Second World War, a chapter of cruelty culminating in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It was also the year in which a new chapter of hope began with the signing of the United Nations charter in June 1945.

Many ex-service men and women from different parts of the world came in 1995 to the Rally for Reconciliation held in Central Hall, Westminster. This was organised by the peace corporation, including CND, as their contribution to the national commemorations.

Perhaps the greatest international peace movement gathering of all time took place in The Hague in 1999. This event commemorated Tzar Nicholas II's private initiative of 1899 when the first government disarmament conference was held. The overall theme was about de-legitimizing war itself: an ambitious project for the beginning of the new millennium. CND took an active part both in the planning and the three day event itself which involved 10,000 participants from 100 countries, and was addressed by the United Nations General Secretary.

CND still lived on with vigour in substantial backbench parts of the New Labour. It was also becoming more influential in church circles as the links between poverty and militarism, nuclear and non-nuclear were better understood. The years covered by this collection were also years of considerable international activity as CND struggled with partners abroad both to save the nuclear non-proliferation treaty of 1968, and to develop arguments from international law in opposition to nuclear weapons. Groups like Trident Ploughshares, which challenged the legality of nuclear weapons, had their claims greatly supported by the International Court of Justice advisory opinion of 1996.

These documents are an excellent record of twelve years in the life of CND's long campaign for peace and genuine security. Like previous and current campaigns ranging from anti-slavery to anti-arms trade, CND's work, remembered in these archives, will encourage others in the future to stand up for their own convictions.

'Another world is possible' is the slogan of those who oppose today's economic globalisation. As these documents show, it is a slogan that could well be shared with CND.

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### *Extracts from the Archives - Part 1*

#### **REEL ONE**

##### **CND National Council Meeting, 22nd / 23rd September 1990, Red Rose Club, London, N4**

Bruce Kent in the Chair. Political Discussion: The Gulf Crisis

John Grounds, CND's Information Officer, opened the discussion with a background briefing on the situation in the Gulf. He gave a brief chronology of the events since the August 2nd invasion and a summary of force levels in the region followed by a description of the scenarios envisaged for the coming weeks: international co-operation, economic sanctions and military options. He then described a number of wider issues raised by the Gulf crisis, including the threat of nuclear proliferation, the danger posed by the presence of nuclear weapons and reactors in the Gulf, chemical weapons production, the hypocrisy of the arms trade and the need for stricter controls, the role of the UN, the consequences of the Gulf crisis with regards to a peace dividend, the oil connection and the role of international law.

#### CND's Political Response

Bruce Kent's position was:

Negotiated settlement. No military action without UN approval.

Article 51 of the Charter does not allow independent military action once responsibility for managing a conflict has been vested in the UN Security Council.

Other points made:

Situation resulted from both sides pursuing oil interests

Military action has strengthened Saddam Hussein

Fighting most likely in cool months - November to April

#### **China - A Briefing for CND International Forum, April 1992**

##### Proliferation

China represents a major problem in respect of horizontal proliferation. Iran has acquired a neutron source reactor and electromagnetic isotope separators from China. Syria is in negotiations with China for the purchase of a reactor, while Algeria has already obtained one.

##### Human Rights

The present regime's attitude to human rights is that human rights are 'primarily the right to development' and to the means of survival. The government denies that there are any political prisoners in China and says that human rights are an internal affair.

##### Prioritisation Rating

All in all China is ranked in World Military and Social Expenditures (1991) as No 1 (ie worst) out of 142 countries rated in 1987 in terms of its military expenditure compared to its peoples average earnings. It was 112th and 104th respectively in terms of what it spent per person on education and health. China is currently the world's fastest growing economy.

*Declan McHugh, CND Information Officer, March 1992.*

#### **Campaigning on Trident - Information Officer's comments.**

##### Scotland

I believe mobilisation of latent nuclear discontent in Scotland could be a very powerful lever to get rid of Trident - perhaps the most powerful at this point, in my opinion. Over 70% of Scottish people are against Trident.

##### Costs

The £3 million a day, £2,000 a minute statistic is a good one, particularly in an election campaign when people are very money-conscious, and will be updated at the end of April when Greenpeace are going to

hold a press conference to unveil new and much higher estimates of the total cost of Trident over its lifetime.

#### International dimension

Heartening solidarity actions have been taking place in the US around the British Trident. More links should be forged and people should be more aware of the anti-Trident Network; Trident is a transatlantic weapon.

*Declan McHugh, March 20 1992*

### **General Secretary's Report, July Council 1992**

What a difference a year can make. At July Council 1991 CND debated whether to cut £100,000 or £125,000. Both proved to be insufficient. Further packages went before September Executive and September & January's Council meetings. A combination of fixed costs reductions, strict financial monitoring and the Emergency Appeal enabled CND to survive, not without considerable pain to the organisation, but nevertheless, to survive. As the Treasurer will report, we have moved from a March 1991 deficit of over £30,000 to a March 1992 surplus in excess of £80,000 - a turn around of £110,000 in one year.

### **REEL TWO**

#### **Discussion Paper on Election Strategy - CND Executive, February 1992**

##### Pre-election and during the campaign

Groups / individual campaigners who have knowledge of candidate's view should be asked to inform the office to help us keep up to date. Despite the diminished information section, candidates can be directed to already existing material and briefings on Trident, the peace dividend (vital during the on-going debate on taxation and economic policy) and conversion. We should make an effort to be present at the Spring series of TU conferences to communicate our views on peace dividend/conversion.

##### After the election

At council it was agreed that the main discussion should focus on the development of a plan for our response to the numerous post election scenarios which could arise ...

A Tory win. If a Conservative Government is elected this will create a constitutional crisis in Scotland. There will be a strong movement for independence and the imposition of Trident bases on an unwilling population will be a key issue. We must be prepared to work with these forces and assist them in ensuring that a strong campaign is waged. Linking actions, eg a small march to Faslane should be considered in these circumstances. We should consult the Baltic states peace movements. The peace dividend issue would highlight the impoverishment of small nations by Tory militarism.

Autumn Campaign 1992 - Notes for the Executive from the Regional Workers / Campaigns Department meeting on 9 June 1992

##### Discussion on the focus for the Autumn Campaign

Two possible topics were discussed - Nuclear Transport and Testing. (We are also currently working on a street campaigning leaflet on the basic case against nuclear weapons and two Trident leaflets are in circulation.)

##### Aims for a Campaign on Testing

For Britain to join the French and Russian moratorium on Testing.

To promote a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

To force the government to defend testing, possibly exploiting any differences between the MoD and the Foreign Office.

To educate and mobilise public opinion.

To enthuse our activists and membership.

To recruit new members.

##### Organisational Objectives

To form a wide coalition of supporters on the issue of testing within parliament (aiming to include members of all opposition parties - preferably including party leaders, and a sprinkling of Tory MPs). Also to form a wide coalition of supporters including NGOs and celebrities. Ideally we would be looking for support from Greenpeace, FoE, and the possibility of a shop window campaign from the Body Shop



## **REEL THREE**

### **CND Annual Report 1991**

An extraordinary twelve months is drawing to a close. The Gulf War, the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, civil war, nuclear proliferation and, above all else, the demise of the USSR: these are the hallmarks of the 'New World Order'. The old world order persists, characterised by NATO's longevity and qualitative nuclear escalation, the deepening third world debt, the starvation of millions and massive environmental damage. Our hopes for a world order based on the principles of global security and the peaceful resolution of conflict have been set back. The Bush administration has used devastating force as a tool of diplomacy. Whatever else may be said about the present juncture, one thing is clear: the world is not a safer place.

The demise of the USSR has ended, at least for the time being, rivalry and conflict between the differing socio-economic systems of East and West. The statements of the Russian, Ukrainian and Kazhakstan Republics regarding nuclear testing and disarmament are exciting developments, but the rise of the new right in eastern Europe and Russia threatens fearful consequences. The Balkan region is dangerously unstable. Germany and Japan are experiencing a kind of creeping militarism. The WEU is contemplating a nuclear capability, while British and NATO escalation continues with the launch of the first Trident boat schedule for January 31st, 1992 and proposals to deploy 450 TASM's in Europe.

### **Report of International Peace Bureau Conference / Assembly. 13-15 September, Toronto.**

The 1991 IPB conference was the first to be held in North America. 200 plus people took part, representing 27 countries ... The theme of the conference was 'Reconciliation and Resistance' - Building World Community' ... It was clear that the organising group - ACT for Disarmament - were making links between all the issues of peace, development, environment, justice and human rights ...

My overall impression of the conference was that there was a much stronger link in the thinking and practice of the Canadian activists between social justice and peace than in a similar group of UK activists. Their movement had been through a similar pattern of growth and decline as we have. Their response to this has been to broaden their agenda. On such short a contact it is difficult to judge whether this has helped to maintain the relevance of the peace movement to Canadian society but it certainly seemed to be a younger more vibrant group of people than one would find at a similar meeting in the UK ...

*Janet Bloomfield. 12.11.91*

### **Planning Meeting for Les Voiles de la Paix, Brighton. May 3rd 1992**

There was a brief discussion to set the joint Franco-British action in a political framework, introduced by Eileen and Duncan for the British and Colette and Marie Claire for the French.

Britain The rioting and disaffection in Los Angeles, stemming from poverty and deprivation, originated in part by the crippling defence budget of the USA. The Third World knows only too well the burden of arms spending; yet the United Nations Conference on the Environment & Development in Brazil in June has not included disarmament on the Agenda ...

France In France restructuring of the army is taking place into a streamlined force for rapid deployment of space weapons. The moratorium on testing is to be welcomed (due partly to public opinion) but must be extended indefinitely with France pushing other nuclear powers especially the USA, into similar action. Reasons for the French moratorium include: the present fragility of the Muroroa atoll, the end of present test programmes and the deep anxiety in political circles about nuclear proliferation.

## **REEL FOUR**

### **CND Press Release, 1st November 1991**

CND's citizens charter to John Major: Stop the Nuclear Test

On Tuesday 5th November at 2pm, a CND led delegation will present a Citizens Charter to John Major at 10 Downing Street, demanding that Britain's underground nuclear test be cancelled. Codenamed 'Bristol', it is due to take place in the next few days on the lands of the Western Shoshone nation in Nevada, USA, despite a personal plea from Chief Raymond Yowell of the Western Shoshone National Council.

Delegates presenting the Charter include: \*CND Vice President Air Commodore Alastair Mackie, \*Ex-Services CND Cdr Robert Green RN (ret), \*Bristol Councillor Robin Moss, \*Green Party Spokesperson Mallen Baker and \*Zoe Lightfoot, part Chippewa Native American. Also invited are Dawn Primarolo MP, Survival International, Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons and British Test Veterans.

The Citizens Charter, entitled, 'Not in our name', has been set up by Bristol CND to reflect the fact that the planned nuclear test has been code-named 'Bristol'. The Charter was launched today by Bristol councillors who passed a motion at Council condemning the test.

### **CND Defence Briefing**

Polaris, Trident and Soviet ABM Defences

There are now discussions about Russia and the US sharing information on GPALS - Global Protection Against Limited Strikes. GPALS in itself would not necessarily invalidate the ABM Treaty, but if the GPALS plan comes to incorporate space weaponry (as the US would like but Russia is against) then the ABM Treaty may collapse or be negated. Britain has been a staunch supporter of the ABM Treaty and was wary of the US Star War Plans for this reason. The irony is that Britain has proceeded with a Trident system that is vastly destructive but has officially admitted that the state that Trident was conceived to face (the USSR) is now a friend

### **REEL 5**

#### **Sanity, May 1990. Low-flying complaint**

I've just received from CND the bump about the latest campaign about low-flying jets. I've become increasingly concerned about CND's stance on such things. I joined CND nearly 10 years ago because I am against nuclear weapons. I reckon the only feasible way we'll ever get rid of the so-called nuclear deterrent is by having a reasonable non-nuclear defence. That's why I disagree with the anti-Tornado and anti-RAF training campaigns. I know Tornados can carry nuclear weapons, but that's not their only function. To answer the points in the low-flying letter:

The Cold War is over. I hope so, with Soviet tanks trundling through the streets in Vilnius, I am not prepared to accept that peace has finally broken out;

They cost £££s. Yes - so do Trident and cruise, and if we have to spend money on arms, I know which I'd rather have. (OK - I'd rather have none, but that won't work);

... I want to keep on supporting CND, to get rid of nuclear weapons. I think we are more likely to win the argument if we concentrate on that, than if we demonstrate naïveté and ignorance by trying to get rid of the lot. That day might well come - but let's concentrate on showing Mrs Thatcher that we can do without nuclear weapons first, then work on getting rid of the rest.

*Rev Anthony E Buglass BA, Amble, Northumberland*

#### **Sanity, January 1989. Will there be another rainbow?**

David Hart on some ominous shifts in the natural world, as viewed by contemporary poets.

*And yet the February lambs come  
Tottering out into the sunlight like  
Treblinka survivors.*

*Through the Church of England jets still  
Pinnacle and buttress overhead  
And their soloist,*

*The hawk,  
maintains its altitude  
Above abandoned farms.*

Harry Fainlight

### **REEL SIX**

### **Campaign, March 1991.**

Not in my name. International Women's Day, 8 March 1991

Throughout the present crisis, a pronounced gender gap has emerged around the issue of support for Britain's role in the Gulf. Women, as a group, have been consistently more opposed to the war than men, indeed, most other interest groups. Popular and enduring conceptions of war have tended to reduce women to the status of either 'innocent victims' or angels in the home. Such depictions work to disempower women, and to silence their opposition. Women have actively rejected these characteristics, identifying the ways in which women are implicated in war as participants in a militarist economy and political culture.

To a large degree, women have written the history of the peace movement over the last decade. During the Gulf crisis, they have been visible, organised and imaginative in their response. The women's vigil outside the Foreign Office has now been running since 11 January, having resumed following the mortar attack on Downing Street ...

### **Chernobyl Children's Project. An update and heartfelt thanks.**

CND groups have been fundraising with a will and I've been regularly sending cheques to Ireland ... Meanwhile Adi Roche, of Irish CND and Director of the Project ... has written

*'...to thank all the British CND supporters for the brilliant support you have given over the past few months. There is a lovely sense of solidarity coming across the Irish Sea and we have been overwhelmed with the response.*

*The majority of this years 250 children have now returned to Belarus. Due to the terrific response we have acquired enough funds to purchase and renovate a complete fleet of ambulances which will be driven out to various adopted hospitals at the end of August by a volunteer group of firemen and ambulance drivers from Waterford.*

*In the name of the children I say Thank You to all of you for finding it in your hearts to show compassion, love and care. In Peace.'*

*Lionel Trippett*

### **REEL SEVEN**

#### **Hornsey CND. May 1994. Hornsey CND goes to Harlesden ...**

On Saturday 23rd April 3 members of Hornsey CND, Pat Arrowsmith, Lorraine Humphries and David Polden bearing the Hornsey CND banner, took part in a demonstration organised by London Region CND against the nuclear waste trains that go through London. This took place in Harlesden High Street, very near Willesden Junction Station which is used by nuclear waste trains from Sizewell, Bradwell and Dungeness nuclear power stations and from nuclear power stations abroad via Dover. With the opening of the new THORP re-processing plant at Sellafield in Cumbria, the amount of waste coming from abroad is set to increase considerably.

About 20 people took part in the action, some wearing imitation radiation-suits. They gave out about 2000 leaflets, collected signatures on a petition calling for a halt to the trains and held up placards and banners. A loud-hailer was used to warn people about the trains and the 'Fallout Marching Band' played. About £23 was given in donations and many of the passing shoppers expressed great concern about the dangers posed by the trains when it was pointed out that they continuously give off radiation and that if the waste containers were to be broken in an accident a mini-Chernobyl could result.

#### **Sydenham and Forest Hill CND. February / March 1993. Aldermaston and Burghfield**

It is hard to believe that scientist and workers are doing their evil work there, developing, 'improving' and manufacturing and servicing their ghastly nuclear weaponry at the behest of our 'democratically' elected government.

United Nations Secretary General Boutros-Ghali has joined CND in calling for intensified efforts to achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Without the power to test these weapons these workers would have nothing to do except specialising in their dismantling and destruction. If that caused job losses I couldn't care a tinker's cuss. (Could you imagine any friends of yours working there?)

In the light of allegations in a new report from Greenpeace which details the appalling safety record at Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment I wonder there are any workers brave enough to work there. However, CND Council has just decided to cancel proposals for a commemorative march from Aldermaston to Burghfield. A pity, I was looking forward to it.

## **REEL EIGHT**

### **Merseyside CND. June 1993. East Timor**

Timor... Ever heard of it?... No... You will... Its situated between the Pacific and the Indian oceans... Just north of Australia... This island has two major things in its favour. Oil and Location.

A recent study of its petroleum found that the quality - 20% is nearly as good as the petroleum in Kuwait which is 25% - the beauty of Timor being there are less people in Timor than Kuwait - In fact since its occupation in 1975 one third of its population has been murdered by Indonesia helped by Britain, France, Germany and the USA of course...

Why else - other than for its oil?... (That's where the location comes in) The Timor Sea which joins the two great oceans is one of the deepest seas in the world - which is handy if you want to hide submarines in there. Its also handy for access... In a speech in Manchester recently a young person from Timor was explaining how Indonesia is swamping Timor with immigrants so that the Timorese will become non-existent - genocide? Certainly it is. Amazing its not been in our newspapers - that's because Britian is selling Indonesia the Hawk aircraft from our own British Aerospace - 'Jobs for the Boys'. Our excuse being... We are selling the Hawk as a training aircraft... Nonsense... This aircraft is nuclear capable... Read on ...

### **Cambridge CND. September 1993. The Bombing of Baghdad.**

In the current iconography of battle, NATO military chiefs are seen as Generals, whereas the leaders of troops involved in the vast array of factional fighting currently being indulged in have been dubbed Warlords. There is an implicit depreciation of the latter but, in the illegal bombing of Baghdad, Bill Clinton has shown that, in reality, there is no distinction between them. They are all Warlords and all to be despised for that reason ...

Clinton's real motivations were, of course, transparent. A couple of weeks ago, he was an unpopular leader who was seen as indecisive and vacillating. Now, we see an upfront, popular President who has, to his eternal discredit, followed the time-worn paths of failing politicians - when things go badly at home, take peoples' minds off it by spilling some blood abroad.

In this country, John Major's response was as craven as it was predictable, but the Labour Party awoke momentarily from its complacent slumbers to condemn the action as being without legal basis. One could hardly restrain the fleeting howl that they might, while their eyes remained open, rediscover the word 'socialism', but the old chin slumped back on the chest and only muted snoring could be heard.

Tony Benn has pointed out that Clinton's action was typical of successive American Presidents who have engaged in similar attacks of violence in pursuit of their own imperial interests. He cited attacks on Cuba, Grenada, Panama, Tripoli and, of course, the Desert Storm operation in Iraq.

Any hopes that Bill Clinton might have proved a more humane and honourable leader than George Bush have been wiped away by this cowardly and brutal action. The new boss is regrettably, but predictably, the same as the old boss, and the world is a poorer place for it.

## **REEL NINE**

### **Yorkshire and Humberside CND. 1993. 4th July, Saturday**

Yorkshire and Humberside CND are celebrating American Independence Day by blowing the whistle on Menwith. You may not have heard of Menwith, but Menwith has probably heard of you. It is the most secret US base in Britain, concerned with tapping into international communications and massive

expansions are underway, most likely to play a key part in in the unworkable 'Star Wars' project. Might we muster a minibus to the moors? NVDA and not. Contact your worker.

### **Bouquets**

To the Colombian Embassy for their support of the World Court Project ... To the French Government, (ignoring the suggestion that they hadn't any more planned tests anyway) for a moratorium on nuclear tests until the end of the year, and an encouragement for others to do the same and to speed up the process of disarmament. Their embassy is at 58 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7JT, for anyone who cares to congratulate them.

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#### **REEL TEN**

##### **CND National Council, Minutes of January 1994 Council.**

Campaigns Team - What have we been up to?

... On the CTBT front, it has been signed by over a hundred countries but of the listed 44, three are still holding out (India, Pakistan and North Korea (\*\$!!@%@\*\*)). UN First Committee on Disarmament has started work and we've been monitoring progress. First NPT PrepCom was held and we sent out a letter explaining our views to all UN Ambassadors in New York.. First CTBT PrepCom is to be held between 20-22 November. We will monitor and respond accordingly.

... Vigilant has been commissioned and we've been busy planning a little something for when it leaves.

The Lakenheath 'have the bombs gone/have they not' saga took up quite a bit of our time. Sent out clarification note to the regions. Yes, the nuclear weapons store is deserted, and the nukes aren't there. But it looks like they have moved them into special lockers inside the aircraft hangers ...

Several schools have been or are to be visited. In conjunction with Student CND (Jen), it is hoped this programme can be stepped up and a countrywide list of CND people willing and able to dazzle Sixth forms built up.

#### **REEL ELEVEN**

##### **Christian CND. Ploughshare, March 1995**

50 Years of Nuclear Weapons ... a Time for Change. Christian CND Annual Conference, Oxford

In the Old Testament the 50th year is a time for Jubilee, a time for emancipation and forgiveness of debts. Can the world in this Jubilee year, 50 years after the start of the nuclear arms race, free itself and future generations from the slavery of nuclear testing? Will the nuclear powers stop testing and free the indigenous people's land? And in freeing themselves of the nuclear arms race, will resources be used for the poor of the earth?

... The conference will look to the future. What will happen if the opportunities are not grasped? How can we build a non-nuclear Europe? How can the United Nations evolve democratically and develop new structures of peace keeping and peace making? The AGM on Saturday afternoon will look at important issues about the future direction of CCND ...

##### **Parliamentary Labour CND**

Local MP Protests Against Nuclear Weapons, 6 August 1998

Local MP Ken Livingstone is a member of a group of almost forty signatories in a letter to George Robertson, the secretary of state for defence, calling for action to push global nuclear disarmament. The letter is in response to the Strategic Defence Review, which came out at the beginning of last month.

Jeremy Corby MP will hand the letter in today, the 53rd anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, to the Ministry of Defence on behalf of the signatories.

The signatories, all Labour MPs and members of the newly re-established Parliamentary Labour CND, welcome some aspects of the review, such as the cut in the number of nuclear warheads. However, they also feel that many other elements achieve little to meet Labour's commitment to work to a nuclear weapon free world ...

##### **Youth and Student CND. Now! ... or never! Together we can stop the new nuclear nightmare.**

Autumn-Winter 1995

5/9/95: 2130 hours GMT: France conducts an underground nuclear test in the South Pacific. 'The ocean turned white ... a flash - like lightening underwater - then the whole sea boiled over' (Eyewitness account). Words cannot adequately describe the contempt that this action shows for human life and the environment - not to mention for the international disarmament agreements that France has committed itself to.

DIY! The threat of nuclear weapons affects every one of us. The only way we can counteract that threat is by confronting it - and changing it. Spread the word! Design and distribute your own leaflets, posters and stickers ... Arm yourself with the facts - information is power! And lastly, use your imagination - we can fight our nightmares with our dreams!

## **REEL TWELVE**

### **Newsletter Ex-Services CND. August 1994**

CND Rally in Trafalgar Square - Sat, 29th October

Britain must not wa(i)ve the rules

In April, 1995, the whole international community will sit down to discuss the review of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Britain must not break her obligation to disarm or the whole Conference could break down. If the current treaty is renewed indefinitely, it opens the door to other countries who would like to join the nuclear club. What we must have is a global ban on nuclear weapons and cessation of all testing.

Special place for Ex-Services CND

Up to 150 of us will be able to picket outside the MOD, wearing our medals and bearing our banners. Assemble there at mid-day. CND boats will be on the Thames, so the MOD offices will be surrounded with peace people ...

### **Labour CND**

NATO bombing of Yugoslavia

For the past 12 weeks, Labour CND has focussed its energy and attention of opposing NATO's illegal and immoral bombing of Yugoslavia, which included the use of Depleted Uranium munitions which are categorised as weapons of mass destruction. We have played a prominent role in the committee for Peace in the Balkans which has organised three national demonstrations and a variety of other events. Over 100 local committees came into being, supported by - and in some cases brought into being by - CND groups, areas and regions.

Many CND members have complained that CND nationally failed to be sufficiently forthright and explicit in its opposition, despite the fact that April council was clearly opposed to NATO bombing and not a single council member raised their voice in opposition to this view. This is a serious failure by CND, especially in view of the incredible media bias in reporting the anti-war voice in Britain ...

## **REEL 13**

### **Campaign, Autumn 1998**

Bishop says no to nuclear weapons

Members of Christian CND have been very busy and very successful. First they made contact with Archbishop Desmond Tutu via a number of left messages. The CND office was most surprised one morning to find an answerphone message from Archbishop Tutu waiting for them!

*'I am most willing to endorse the Abolition 2000 Statement and support the campaign calling on governments to commit the world to the permanent elimination of nuclear weapons. As you so rightly suggest, in South Africa we overcame apartheid relatively peacefully. This gave us confidence that all that is required to establish a nuclear weapon-free world is the will to make it happen. We can do it. I believe we are on the winning side. God bless you.'*

### **Press & Information**

Russian nuclear submarine accident, 14 August 2000

A Russian nuclear-armed and nuclear-powered submarine, the Kursk, lies at the bottom of the Barents Sea.

A British nuclear-powered submarine, HMS Tireless, sits, broken-down in Gibraltar Harbour.

The Russians deny that the Kursk has any of its nuclear cruise missiles on board although CND approaches any statement about nuclear weapons, from any nuclear-armed state with extreme scepticism.

However, even if true, there are still environmental threats. Were the hull and the reactor compartment of the Kursk damaged in the emergency grounding? If so, even though the reactor has been shut down, there are dangers of a leakage of radioactive materials into the sea - as has already happened in the case of HMS Tireless ...

## **REEL 14**

### **Welsh CND - CND Cymru, Winter 1997**

Nuclear Flights danger over South Wales

New and frightening information made available to CND Cymru had detailed flights of aircraft carrying radioactive nuclear materials over highly populated areas of South Wales. 'Special Nuclear Materials Flights' travel to and from the USA from Brize Norton (Oxfordshire) - overflying the Cotswolds, Chepstow, the northern edge of Newport, Caerphilly, the northern edge of Cardiff and Port Talbot and down the Bristol Channel out into the Atlantic. The flights are meant to be a secret.

The exact nature of the cargo remains a secret but the containers are those used to transport nuclear material. The 'Special Nuclear Materials' comes from or are destined for the Atomic Weapons Establishments at either Burghfield or Aldermaston. From this information it is assumed that the material is either Plutonium or Highly Enriched Uranium.

An accident involving one of these aircraft could permanently devastate South Wales and the South West of England. Because of the potential devastation posed by such flights, the US Government has banned transport of nuclear materials by air over US territory. Once again, the nuclear 'deterrent' that was set up to protect us is threatening our lives.

### **Scottish CND Conference 1995. Clyde Centre, Helensburgh,**

7th & 8th October. Former Navy Commander addresses CND

Rob Green used to play a key role in supporting Britain's nuclear fleet when he served as a Commander in the Royal Navy. Today he is a leading light of the peace movement. Rob left the Navy following the Falklands War and in particular the sinking of the Belgrano. Since then he has become the Chair of the UK World Court Project, a position which has taken him around the world campaigning for an end to nuclear arms. This summer he has been in New Zealand, during the hectic build up to the French nuclear tests at Moruroa.

Rob will be coming to speak at our annual conference on Saturday 7th October. We are delighted to be able to enlist a senior Navy officer to our cause as we meet in the shadow of Faslane.

## **REEL 15**

### **Crawley CND, The Activator, January 1997.**

Free Vanunu (the world's first nuclear hostage)

For three decades Israel declared that they would not be the first to introduce nuclear weapons to the Middle East. During this time it was secretly developing an extensive nuclear programme, hiding it from the Israeli people and Parliament, and from the international community. Mordechai Vanunu had the courage to break this wall of silence.

He worked as a nuclear technician at Dimona, Israel's nuclear installation from '76 to '85. In '86 he revealed the facts in the Sunday Times. Based on his evidence, experts concluded that Israel had stockpiled up to 200 warheads, making it the sixth largest nuclear power in the world.

On 30th September '86, before his information was published, he was drugged and kidnapped from Rome by Israeli agents. He was tried in secrecy, charged with treason and espionage, and sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. Since then, he has been kept in isolation in conditions 'cruel, inhuman, and degrading' (Amnesty International). The European Parliament has repeatedly called for his release, and he has been honoured by international organisations and five times nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.



*'I have sacrificed my freedom and risked my life in order to expose the danger of nuclear weapons which threaten this whole region. I have acted upon behalf of all citizens and of all humanity.'*

## **REEL SIXTEEN**

### **Greater Manchester District CND, Early Warning, September 1998. Vengeance is coming ...**

Britain's fourth trident nuclear submarine, HMS Vengeance, is being launched by the government, at Barrow in Furness, Cumbria on the 19th September. Wouldn't you rather have the £1.5 billion per year that is spent on nuclear weapons spent on health, education & social welfare ???

CND are organising a big demonstration at Barrow, to try and disrupt the official naming ceremony with as many drums, whistles and noisy people as possible. Add your voice to the clamour against nuclear weapons.

### **Summer Campaigning, Saddleworth**

Saddleworth Peace Movement held its annual Peace Walk on Hiroshima Day in drizzle and rain, but our Affirmation to work for peace was not dampened. Twenty people walked from Greenfield to the canal side at Saddleworth museum, Uppermill with prayers and secular readings along the way. We were joined this year by Oldham East and Saddleworth MP, Phil Woolas, who spoke with feeling about the need to reduce Britain's trade dependence on arms sales. Although the core of walkers, who ranged in age from 6 to over 90, come each year, we were joined by new people attracted by the leaflets we put in letterboxes along the route a few days before hand, and by our other publicity, mostly in the local papers.

*Steve Roman*

## **REEL 17**

### **Merseyside CND, Newsletter, February / March 2000**

What New Fence ... Alert Black Bikini - Threatcon Bravo

The above is on signs inside one of the USA's biggest Spy Bases controlled by National Security Agency - after a busy year for the USA spies in support of military operations in Serbia, Iraq, the planet ... international row over ECHELON global spying network - of which Menwith Hill Station, Yorkshire is a major part ... and now all the adverse publicity about 'Son of Starwars' developments at the base ... well, at least they got rid of those bloody women from that Peace Camp - OR DID THEY? actually they didn't ... for several weeks now the MOD police have repeatedly found women strolling around inside the security fence on recce's (reconnaissance) ... military speak kids ? ... actually the women are beside themselves it's like a new Disneyworld on the Yorkshire Dales ... for details of 'HOW TO GET OVER-UNDER-THROUGH A HIGH SECURITY FENCE' ... please contact: WOMEN WITH HILL WOMENS PEACE CAMP ...

### **West Midlands CND, November 1999**

Ploughshares Three acquitted

On October 20th, Sheriff Margaret Gimblett instructed the jury at Greenock Sheriff Court to acquit Angie Zelter, Ulla Roder and Ellen Moxley on the charge of damaging a Trident facility in Loch Goil. In June, the three swam out to the laboratory barge 'Maytime', which is part of the Trident weapons system. They damaged some items and threw others into the loch. The Sheriff considered the International Court of Justice judgement in July 1996, saying, *'I have to conclude that the three accused ... were justified in thinking that Great Britain, in its use of Trident, not simply possession, coupled with a first strike policy, ... has indeed been construed by others as a threat and as such is an infringement of international and customary law'*. She accepted that the three had tried *'every other reasonable method to prevent nuclear catastrophe'*. As anticipated, the case is being referred to the High Court for clarification, a move welcomed by Trident Ploughshares, whose spokesperson said, *'We have been looking forward to the day when the legality of Trident would be properly debated at this level'*.

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