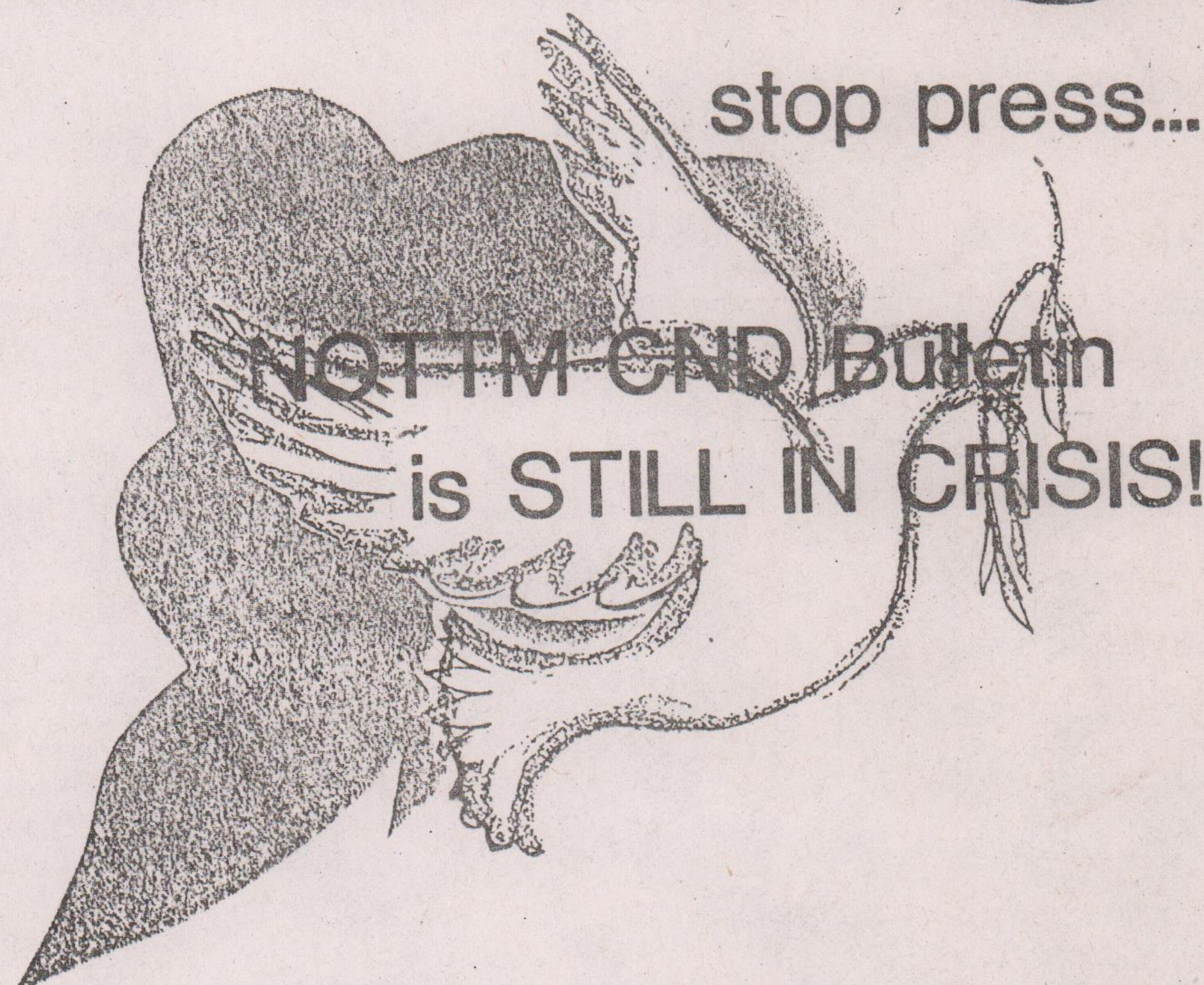

NOTTINGHAM CND

JUNE BULLETIN 20p



stop press...



10th

NOTTINGHAM

PEACE

FESTIVAL



SUNDAY JULY 8th

Editorial

NEW EVIDENCE ABOUT THE CHERNOBYL
DISASTER.

Your attention is drawn to the letter from Kate Marsden which describes the state of NCND's books and the cost of the CastleGate office. It is most important that all members attend 2nd of July meeting to discuss and decide this important issue.

Nottingham CND face a decision which will have a considerable effect upon the nature and shape of it's future operations

The office in the city centre accounts for over half of the groups total yearly spending. The introduction (or perhaps imposition) of the new Poll-Tax Business Rate, approximately £800, has called into doubt the practicality and wisdom of maintaining the CastleGate office.

Many CND groups without paid employees work from home addresses and this is one possible option for our Nottingham group. The "home-adress" option would save NCND lots of money which could then be directed into campaigns or other activities. The city site office does provide the group with a central place for meetings and information gathering, however, and the loss of it would diminish both the groups stature and effectiveness.

The question which NCND, as a whole, has to resolve is whether the higher profile and organisational benefit of maintaining a city site office is worth the heavy financial burden which it entails.

Just four years after the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, the evidence from Byelorussia, in the western part of the Soviet Union, indicates that the medical effects are much greater than had previously been predicted. This republic received about 70% of the radiation which fell in the European part of the Soviet Union which is estimated by the specialists of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences to be equivalent to the radiation which would be produced by 50-90 Hiroshima bombs.

Implications.

There are 47 nuclear power stations in France alone. If an accident occurred in any of these, Southern England could be affected in the same way as Byelorussia, but because of the density of the population and the large cities in Southern England and Northern France, instead of between 2 - 10 million people being affected, the figures may well involve 15 - 30 million. But both Governments are ignoring the facts for some nuclear power stations, as we know, play a crucial role in maintaining the arms race through the 'nuclear cycle'. The suffering of the Byelorussian people (who, incidentally, lost 25% of their population in the 2nd World War) must not be ignored and the facts buried. We need to bring them urgently to the attention of the British people, as soon as we can.

A visit by a group of doctors and scientists who are experts in this field is planned to the affected area in the Autumn and the participation of paediatricians specializing the thyroid disorders and cancers as well as radiation biologists and epidemiologists is envisaged. In Britain, a trust CHERB is being established to further joint work, training, medical support and fund-raising for medical equipment. If you would like to help or can donate money or equipment, please write to CHERB, 26 Battenhall Road, Birmingham. 17 9UD. 'Phone 021 427 3545

A VISIT TO THE U.S.S.R., 1990.

Members of Nottingham CND will remember that Gorbachov originally urged the elimination of all Nuclear weapons. At the recent summit he continued to "fill in the trenches of the Cold War".

On a recent visit to the USSR I saw the desperate need for a reduction in the Arms Race which has led to severe economic problems there (as it has in the USA, of course). Gorbachov told Bush in Malta last year that his survival depended on raising the standard of living of the Russian people. This can only come from a huge switch from military to civil activity. Can this be done in time?

The economic problems are displayed to the foreign visitor as a desperate shortage of "hard", i.e. foreign currency and of



consumer goods. Pound notes give instant access to the Bolshoi ballet. A more doubtful tourist attraction was the sight of children outside tourist hotels, trying to exchange packets of chewing gum for dollars, pounds or francs.

The enormous shortage of money to spend on infrastructure is shown in the appalling state of the roads which were pitted with potholes even in the centre of Moscow. The railways need investment, too, though our own journey from Moscow to Leningrad was speedy and comfortable., an efficient restaurant car supplying us with cooked meals and snacks, no hasty bureaucrat interrupting conversations.

Perestroika is one monument to Gorbachov which will surely survive. It suits Western journalists to emphasise disagreements between Gorbachov and Yeltsin, but Russian intellectuals, we hope, will continue to see that Gorbachov has saved the country from a Romanian scenario. This, we were told by a Professor at the university of Moscow. Imagine a Caeucescau now, instead of Gorbachov, in charge of Russian affairs!

We saw many manifestations of Perestroika. Even our state Tourist guide felt free to criticise some aspects of her state policies. We saw a Hunger Fast with an admiring crowd surrounding the protestors. Our photographs of the protest banners on May Day may be less professional than newspaper

displays, but they are historic documents all the same. Our happiest experience of Perestroika, however, was the willingness of young students to talk to us freely. Some, we hope, will be long-lasting pen-friends. Russian capacity for making friends makes one wonder how the Cold War ever started.

There were, of course, some relics of the old days when tourists were strictly controlled. All our accommodation and food was arranged in Tourist hotels and there were the "compulsory" visits to the Berioza shops (all purchases paid for in pounds).

cont

As we were in the Soviet Union at the beginning of May, we saw great preparations being made for the May 9th celebration of the ending of the Second World War. Soldiers were rehearsing military manoeuvres, while piles of red tulips, my own included, were being put on War and Civilian Memorials. We were reminded that the Russians are a haunted people. Ghosts of the Great Patriotic War abound. Our Guide had lost both grandparents in the War. It is perhaps harder to accept German unification in your uncle starved to death when the Fascists besieged Leningrad and a million of its people died. It was necessary to be sensitive to Russian emotions and not to turn away at the Field of Mars (the huge war grave in the city), as one of our British party did, saying that "cemeteries depressed him".

Now that so much destruction has been rebuilt and that there is hope for arms control and for the end of spending on enormous monuments to "Revolutionary achievements", the USSR has the potential to be stronger than the U.S.A. American power rested in its grain harvest, stricken now by drought every two years instead of every ten, now that the rain belt has moved. With Global warming, the fields of the Ukraine can become the world's breadbasket instead of the fields of Mid-West America. This potential comes with a proviso. Can the Soviets solve their economic problems? Our own experience of large scale unemployment, applied to busy workaholics in Russia, makes one marvel at a country facing such a challenge.

MARJORIE W. BROWN.



Nottm. C.N.D. 31st. March 1990
"SHUT OUT TRIDENT"
R.R. RAYNESWORTH, DERBYS.

Youth CND Report - CND Council June '90.

Campaigns:- February/March saw the launch of our Well Out of Order publicity campaign, which was very successful and has so far resulted in over 100 replies (mainly from CND News).

October 20th is the date of our national Day of Action - Bin the Bomb Day, which will be jointly held with Student CND. The symbolic action will consist of putting paper missiles/money into wastebins, dustcarts, etc. The scale of the action will depend on groups/regions. We will highlight the wasted resources poured into the defence industry and thus link in with CND's overall Autumn campaign in calling for defence cuts.

Regions will hold day schools late summer/early September to share skills and practically 'make missiles'.

We are producing an Action Pack, leaflets and stickers which will be distributed from the office.

Understandably school debates have diminished over the exam period: however, we're going for a big push in September at the beginning of the new term.

Fundraising gigs have been held in Wales, West Midlands and soon in London - we have set up a scheme whereby, on production of their m'ship card, YCND members get into gigs at a reduced fee.

The Youth NVDA network is planning another summer camp, possibly at Faslane, plus future actions are planned for the Summer/Autumn (details to be revealed later!)

Groups/Members:- Since January Council, our groups have increased by a third with, hopefully, more emerging as a result of Well Out of Order.

Youth CNDers are now between 40-50% of all new members recruited to CND.

Claire McMaster,
National Youth Co-ordinator.

2nd JUNE 1990.

Political Discussion: "Security for Europe in a Post NATO World", led by Frank Blackaby.

Frank began by referring to the dismantling of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and the inherent implications of a common European security system. He envisaged a democratically appointed council, using the European Community (E.C.) parliamentary model of directly elected members, to oversee a pan-European armed service. He went on to emphasize that each of the 27 nations of the continent should be expected to take part. Using the E.C. in the context of the 11 full members where, largely because of multinational corporations each with a vested interest in exploiting the populations of each member country, war between members is not even possible, let alone likely.

Europe, in Frank's context, includes all countries with the possible singular exception of Albania.

Currently, the combined "defence" budget of Europe as a whole is estimated to be £460 billion pa.a., a figure which in its immensity is staggering!!

Council responded with a number of pertinent points, not least of which was the observation that we do not live in a post NATO world and therefore the debate could only be, at best, idealist.

Sheila Oakes is convinced that human psychology has been proven to need an enemy. If not the U.S.S.R., then the media would be left to create another. Islam? Rich Northern v poor Southern Hemisphere? or the Environment??

Council delegates generally rejected this proposition, no-one present really felt the need for an enemy as such. Yes! we were all fearful, possibly even paranoid to a certain extent, but to focus this on a single external "enemy" would be to side-step the real issue of our inherent fear of

mortality. The Environment in its present state of threat should not be seen as the enemy, but rather as the focus for bringing us all together, in common purpose.

Update on Modernisation - due to have been presented by Oliver Ramsbottam - was presented instead by Martin Butcher, directly elected, of British American Security Information Council (BASIC).

Seemingly, NATO's nuclear shell, the W79, is so unsafe that if it were to fall off the back of a lorry would detonate and produce a massive cloud of plutonium gas. The same could well happen if one of these devices were to be struck by something as relatively harmless as a stray bullet!! There are hundreds of these W79s which no-one is quite sure how to dispose of safely - phew!! There are 450 Short Range Attack Missiles - Tactical (SRAM-T) and NATO now has 350 sea-launched cruise missiles. One council rep. asked Martin to explain the difference between "Strategic" and "Tactical" nuclear weapons. Not an easy answer, seemingly it's the difference between a tactic and a strategy. Basically, strategic missiles have a longer range. I'm sure the military know what the difference is!!? If any reader can explain in clearer terms, I'd be very grateful if they would do so via the Nottingham C.N.D. Bulletin.

BASIC have produced a number of very informative reports, particularly "NATO Nuclear Planning After the Cold War", Report 90.2.; which I hope to persuade Nottm. C.N.D. to buy. A mine of information and a snip at £5 per copy.

Conference Arrangement Working Group Report.

Council agreed to alter standing order SO9 to facilitate more efficient compositing of resolutions: that the costs of group and individual delegates should be the same rates as last year, i.e. £18 for groups/individuals and £8 concessions for low income individuals and that candidates

standing for office or as directly elected members of council should not be obliged to state political or religious affiliations in their election statements.

The single transferable vote system for the officers (chair, treasurer and 4 vice-chairs) who will be invited to hust and the multiple X first past the post system for ordinary council members will be as last year.

Integrated campaign for the Autumn and after.

We separated into 8 workshops to discuss 2 issues:-

1. Activities around NATO meetings:

A heads of government summit in London, July 5/7th, to be held at Lancaster House, St. James's Park. People to gather from 12.00 noon on July 5th with "placards and a picnic". The gathering will continue with people joining in when they can until dark. There will be a presence throughout the summit, involving Christian C.N.D., Quakers and all others who wish to join. More details on C.N.D. Action Line, Tel.071 490 4037 from the second week of June.

Local activities suggested are:-

a) A large letter which we could get members to sign, passers-by, etc. and use for a photo opportunity - handing it to our M.P., bishop, etc. This will arrive at Nottm. C.N.D. office during 1st/2nd week of June.

b) An opinion poll to be released on the Sunday before the summit to ask two simple questions based on:
+ Do you think that nuclear tests should be banned worldwide?
+ Do you think that there should be no new nuclear weapons based anywhere in the world, including Britain?

(Draft questions only - not the actual wording - please note.)

2. Autumn Campaign - Resources.

The objective of C.N.D. is to ensure that the peace dividend is nailed to the political agenda for this and any future government and not dealt with and dumped by a few cuts and announcements of tax cuts by the Tories or marginalised by the Labour Party.

Our message to the public is clear and simple, i.e. "Peace Dividend = £100 Billion", the amount which can be made via "defence" cuts over the next 10 years, equal almost to Britain's North Sea oil revenues in the 1980s.

This should be released for industry, the health service, education, housing, the environment, etc.

The campaign will be integrated. The same message to Trade Unions, groups, etc. Through education, establishing coalitions, reassurances, realistic alternatives to militarism and timing.

C.N.D. Publications Ltd.

Two new leaflets in the "In brief" series of short, accessible leaflets @ 5p each have been produced:-

NUCLEAR NAVIES - The Arms Race at Sea.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION - French Nuclear Testing in the Colonised Pacific Islands of Polynesia.

Rod Langford. 4.06.90.



Extract of letter from a 'Member'.

"I do admire the work, devotion and enthusiasm you have put into CND for years, BUT do you think that, in the present state of world politics and the danger to the planet, you might get a better public response and feel you were doing a more urgent job by switching to the 'Green' or 'Ecological' movements?

I feel I would be better motivated in that case. I feel that C.N.D. has to shift and evolve like everything else."

Open to comment!

Report to CND Council June '90

STUDENT CND

Introduction

Student CND was (re-)launched in the first quarter of this year. At present it is concentrating on (re-)establishing a fully operational national network in preparation for the forthcoming academic year.

Since the launch Conference earlier this year there has been an activists' gathering which has formulated a series of proposals for Student CND's working structure and for its campaigns priorities for consideration at the first full meeting of Student CND Council on June 16.

Update

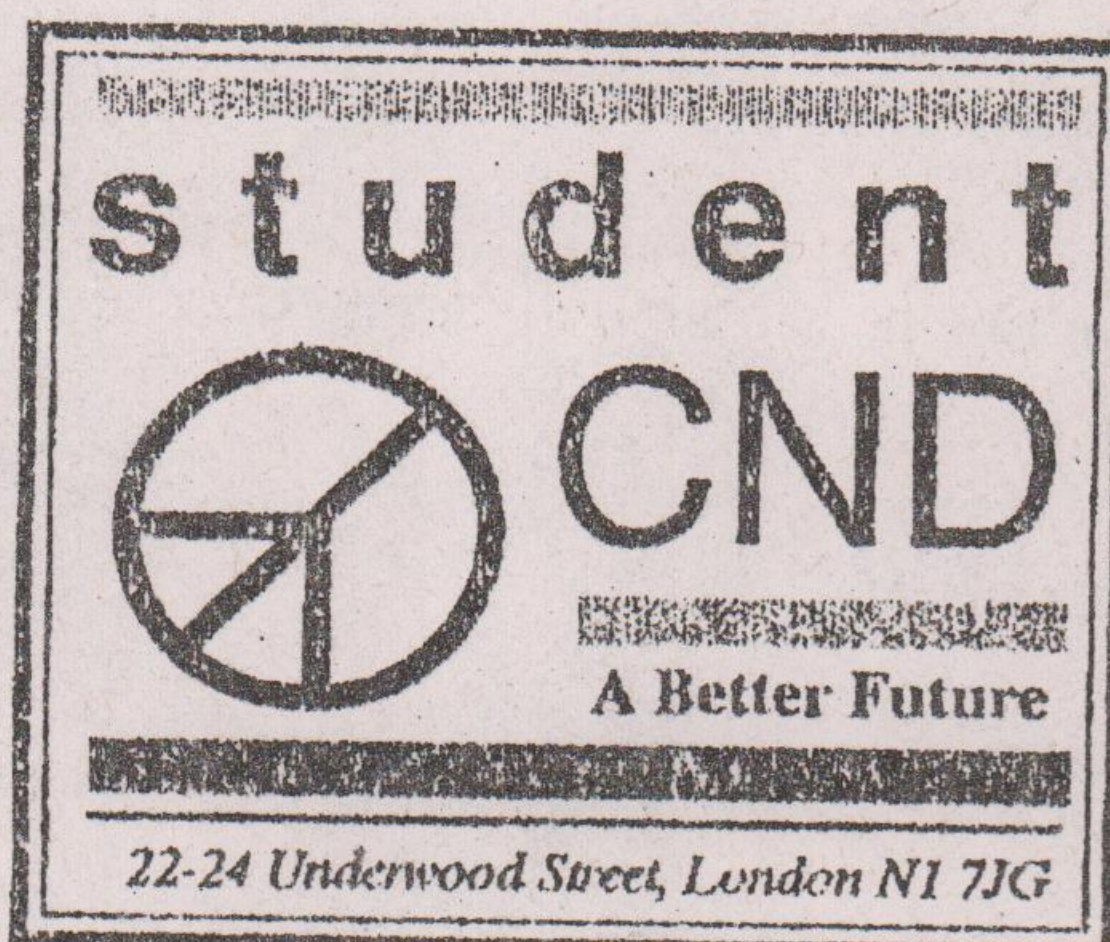
The National Union of Students has recommitted itself to a policy supporting unilateral nuclear disarmament. We are now represented on NUS Executive, and expect NUS' former peace and disarmament budget to be reopened in the near future.

Advertising has begun for a sabbatical worker, with the intention that interviewing should begin in mid-June with the successful candidate receiving NUS and in-house training shortly afterwards, ready to commence full-time work in early summer.

Work is underway on producing a permanent logo and the college 'Introweek' pack for the new academic year; production will be overseen by Sheffield University, and distribution by York University.

Campaigns

The activists' gathering agreed to recommend the following four



campaigns to Student CND Council: Military research on campus, anti-Trident and other National CND campaigns; 'One World' campaigns (with other student organisations); and campaigns with other national and student peace organisations relevant to Student CND and college campuses (eg. CAAT and arms companies).

A full proposal (available from Student CND) on the military research campaign was received enthusiastically, consisting of: a Student CND pamphlet (an updated version of the 1974 Zoe Fairburns booklet); the creation of a working group consisting of outside individuals and group representatives expert in economic, military and education policy; the publication of the working group report to coincide with the national launch of a broad-based 'Campaign for Education' spear-headed by Student CND with a 'Charter for Education' and 'Friends of Education' fund-raising scheme.

The momentum of the campaign would be maintained by a single major national NVDA, local campus actions, and work within NUS (including full incorporation of the campaign within NUS' 'Education Initiative').

It is expected that the bulk of the funding for the pamphlet would come from sponsorship, advertising and sales; the launch of the pamphlet may also be accompanied by a national speaking tour by its co-authors (and others) to encourage college (re-)affiliation to National CND. Funding for the 'Campaign for Education' would largely come from grants, affiliations and donations to the 'Friends' scheme, and merchandise sales.

Events

With the recent decision by Youth CND (see Youth CND report) to move the date of 'Bin the Bomb Day' to coincide with the new academic year, we are jointly aiming for a single national gathering - possibly at Aldermaston - supported by local group actions.

Miscellaneous

Other activities under consideration or already underway include a National Alternative Careers Fair Roadshow, input into National CND Conference, and publicity and fundraising work for the 'Ask for the Earth' Festival.

ASK FOR THE EARTH

AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL FOR PEACE AND THE ENVIRONMENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st 1990 — ROUNDHAY PARK, LEEDS

Ask For The Earth will be a major international festival to celebrate the end of the Cold War and the dawn of new and exciting times. We now have the opportunity to replace conflict with the co-operation vital to our survival. Let's work with other nations to transfer the vast resources squandered on arms to solving the *real* problems of the planet — hunger, poverty and environmental pollution.

Ask For the Earth will bring together speakers and popular musicians from around the world for an exciting Festival of celebration and hope, a festival to link the crucial issues of peace, justice and care of the planet.

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

The main stage will feature popular British bands as well as some of the best in World Music. Around the park, street bands will play with other entertainment in one of the festival marquees.

SPEAKERS

Those invited include representatives of some of the new governments and grassroots groups for change in Eastern Europe, together with top British speakers. There will be a wide range of forums and workshops — discussing key issues concerning disarmament, justice and the environment.

FUN

Everything from jugglers, fire-eaters and clowns to cabaret, street theatre and poets. A hot air balloon... and much more...!

CHILDREN

Exciting activities for children throughout the day.

STALLS

A huge range of stalls selling unusual and environmentally-friendly products and promoting the work of green, development and peace organisations.

ROUNDHAY PARK

Roundhay Park in Leeds is a superb and spacious park, internationally known and ideally suited to an event such as this. Public transport to Leeds and from the city centre to the Park are excellent. There is also a camp site next to the Park.

Ask For The Earth is organised by a group of people active in campaigns for peace, the environment and justice.

It is backed already by many prominent organisations and individuals, including:

John Battle MP, Bishop of Knaresborough, Peter Crampton MEP, Paul Eddington, Simon Hughes MP, Michael McGowan MEP, Bill Owen MBE, Sir Georg Solti, Dafydd Elis Thomas MP, Ron Todd, Anglican Pacifist Fellowship, Campaign Against the Arms Trade, Campaign For Nuclear Disarmament, European Nuclear Disarmament, Friends of the Earth (Leeds), Green Party, League Against Cruel Sports, Leeds City Council, Leeds Development Education Centre, Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (West & North Yorks), National Assembly of Women (Leeds), National Union of Mineworkers, National Union of Students, Oxfam, People to People, Shelter (Yorks & Humberside), United Nations Association (Leeds), York Peace Education Centre.

At least 25,000 people are expected to attend this festival and we anticipate widespread national media coverage for the event and its message.

For more information contact the Festival Co-ordinator: John Brierley, Lower Lumb Farm, Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 5SH. Tel. 0422-883927.

YOUR SUPPORT...

Entrance to the Festival will be FREE, enabling as many people as possible to attend. But your support is crucial to mount this ambitious and exciting project.

Please become a "Friend of the Festival". For just £10 you can become a Friend and help to ensure its success.

We will send you a special *Ask For The Earth* badge and window sticker, so that you can help spread the word.

We need at least 1,000 Friends to help us. Please become one of them by giving what you can.



Printed on 100% recycled paper.

Yes, I want to help make *Ask For the Earth* a huge success and become a Friend of the Festival.

Please send me my Festival badge & window sticker (tick ✓) ☐

Name

Address

Postcode

Here is my cheque (made out to *Ask For The Earth*) for:

£10 ☐ £15 ☐ £20 ☐ £50 ☐ Other ☐

Send to:

**Ask For The Earth, Lower Lumb Farm,
Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 5SH.**

LETTERS RECEIVED.....

Phil Robinson,
Lincoln C.N.D.,
Peace Festival Committee,
8 South Parade,
Lincoln. LN1 1QN
Tel: (0522) 525035

9th May 1990

The Nottingham Evening Post.

Dear Editor,

Dear Group Members,

On 4th August 1990, Lincoln C.N.D. (with the held of other campaigning organisations) will be holding its annual Peace Festival in the Arboretum Park, Lincoln.

We would like take this opportunity to invite any of your members and friends to attend and at the same time to suggest that your group might wish to have a stall at the event. (Entrance is free - there is a small fee for stallholders).

The day runs from roughly 10 a.m. to late afternoon and centre around a variety of music played by generally local bands (ranging from rock through R&B to acoustic guitar). Of equal importance are stalls (promoting and selling) from a wide range of campaigning, charity and political organisations, plus food and drink on sale (vegetarian included).

The festival provides an enjoyable day for all ages - apart from its major aims in promoting peace and understanding and bringing together 'like-minded' people from all walks of life.

The event features as one of the most notable in the County's calendar and we would be delighted if you could join us and others from the neighbouring areas.

For further details, please
contact me at the above
address/phone no. (after 4.30 p.m.
weekdays).

Yours in peace,

P. ROBINSON.

TOWARDS 2000.

David Lane attended the Conference organised by the Derbyshire Federation of Peace Groups at Chesterfield on May 19th.

On every needy social issue of the day from Health and Education, to Care for the Elderly and Disabled, the standard reply by the Government is the shortage of cash. It seems there is no shortage of funds to make bigger and better bombs and bombers to modernise our nuclear capability. Britain is to sign a contract for the third Trident submarine, to modernise and increase the number of warheads at a cost of £9 billion.

In light of recent developments in Eastern Europe with the Berlin Wall down and the Iron Curtain in tatters, who has need of this frightening array of nuclear weapons, the effect of which is two way; atomic fall-out can end up in Nottinghamshire as easily as Minsk?

The cancellation of the Trident could release funds to build 500 hospitals complete with staff and reduce the Poll Tax to a fraction of the present demands.

The time has come to rebuild Britain with all the money released by useless weapons and provide a safe and prosperous future for everyone. It can be done and we should start now.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC JESSOP.

Published 18.5.1990.

Radcliffe-on-Trent Neighbourhood Group have joined Bruce's Press-gang. This letter was the first attempt and was published in the Evening Post in unedited form. Perhaps this will encourage more to write also.

He has informed us that it was an excellent conference and well attended and hopes that more members from Nottingham will be able to attend next time.

We hope to publish a more detailed report in our next issue.

LOOKING AHEAD.

June 16th 10 a.m. One World Conference.
Birmingham Council Hse
Victoria Square.
June 25th NCND Officers 7 pm
Peace Festival 8.15 pm
June 30th "The Peace Dividend"
Reducing Defence
Spending.
City University,
Northampton Square,
London. EC1
July 2nd Nottingham C.N.D.
Extraordinary Meeting
W.E.A.Shakespeare St.
7.30 pm
July 8th PEACE FESTIVAL 1 -6 pm
July 14/15 "Proliferation or
Liberation"
National Conference
London. (See Insert)
Aug 4th LINCOLN PEACE FESTIVAL.

Contacts:

FOR HOLIDAY MAKERS IN THE SOUTH OF
ENGLAND?

International activity.

Disarming the Seas.

There is a chance for joint activity with the French peace movement in June. Peace groups from the North of France have organised a peace cruise with boats calling at British and French channel ports between June 9 and 16.

British peace activists are invited to travel to Dieppe on Saturday June 9 - travelling on the Newhaven/Dieppe ferry (depart 10.00 a.m., arrive 3.00 p.m., cost £22 return) for the send-off ceremony. There will be a reception in the Mairie, release of doves and speeches. Dieppe peace activists will provide accommodation.

The itinerary is as follows. Depart Dieppe June 10 and call at Brighton June 11, Portsmouth June 12, Southampton June 13, Isle of Wight June 13, Le Havre June 15 and Dieppe June 16.

It is hoped that the French boats will be greeted by CND groups, Sea Actions, SCANN, etc. as they call at British ports and there is limited accommodation on the boats. If you wish to travel on the peace cruise spending one day or more, contact Eileen Daffern, on 0273 681181. The cost is 100 FF for day visitors and 250 FF for berth and meals per day.

Our thanks to Phyllis for typing the Bulletin - and to everybody else who has helped in any way to bring this issue out.

.....
Yes, I want to help. Here is my subscription to Nottingham CND

☐ adult £3.75 ☐ household £4.50 ☐ unwaged £1.50 ☐ group affiliations £5 to 50

Name

Address

.....
I enclose £ membership plus £ donation

Please make cheques payable to NCND and return to:

Nottingham CND, 33. CASTLEGATE. NOTTINGHAM. NG1 7AR.